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Daily Report

Central Eurasia

BIS-SOV-92-173
Friday
September 1992

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-92-173

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4 September 1992

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Tajikistan's Nabiyeu Claims 'Complete Control'; Hostages Released

Radio Rossii reports that "Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyeu is in one of his residences and is working to normalize the situation in the republic." In an interview with IZVESTIYA, Nabiyeu, apparently in hiding since the current crisis in Tajikistan began, stated: "I remain president of the republic. I am in complete control of the situation and am in communication with all the regions, ministries, and departments." When asked about his recent whereabouts, Nabiyeu responded by stating: "Whoever wants to meet with me will find me. I continue to perform my duties as president."

Radio Rossii reports that the "hostages taken by opposition supporters during the Dushanbe events were released."

CIS Presidents' Statement on 'Civil War' in Tajikistan

Alma-Ata Radio reports that the heads of state of Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan issued a statement on the situation in Tajikistan, which notes the following: "There is now the real danger that the Republic of Tajikistan may be severed from the CIS countries and that it may lose its sovereignty. This situation cannot be tolerated any longer." "The extraordinary situation that has arisen" "requires that the CIS states, above all Russia, Kazakhstan, and the Central Asian states, take emergency measures." "An additional contingent of border troops will be sent and other urgent measures have been taken to protect the southern borders of the CIS."

"The fraternal ties between our peoples are undissolvable, the southern borders of the Commonwealth are sacred, and that the escalation of the civil war is impermissible in the Republic of Tajikistan, which to various degrees threatens the interests of our peoples and which is damaging political stability in the region." The presidents hold "the Republic of Tajikistan, its government, and leaders of the political groupings" "fully responsible for the situation that has taken shape in the region." Finally, they appeal to the people of Tajikistan "to find strength to restore peace and civil concord, stability, and to stop the civil war."

Yeltsin Opens Conference on Georgia Conflict; Leaders Agree To Cease-Fire

Russian President Yeltsin, Georgian leader Shevardnadze, Abkhazian leader Ardzinba, and North Caucasus regional leaders agreed in Moscow today on a cease-fire in Abkhazia starting 5 September, according to ITAR-TASS. The agreement states "a monitoring and inspection commission" comprising representatives from all three areas is being created to "ensure observance of the cease-fire" and "carry out the disarmament, disbandment, and removal from Abkhazia and also prevent the entry into Abkhazia of illegal armed formations and groups." Shevardnadze notes in a Radio Rossii report that "The implementation of the agreement will not be easy," stressing, however, that Georgia "shall fight to ensure that peace reigns in this difficult region." Ardzinba, although he was aware of the agreement's "substantial hidden dangers," said he signed the agreement because "genocide is being committed on Abkhaz territory."

Strike by Free Trade Unions of Ukraine Ends; Demands Met

Moscow INTERFAX reports that the strike undertaken by the Free Trade Unions of Ukraine on 2 September has ended. "The cabinet has agreed to meet all the strikers demands, including the signing of a tariff agreement, no persecution of strikers and union leaders, and the allocation of time for Union chiefs to speak on television." It was further noted that "the guarantees have been given personally by Leonid Kravchuk."

CIS Presidents Issue Statement on Tajikistan

*LD0309153192 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Text] We have received from the Kazakh Foreign Ministry the text of a statement of the Russian, Kazakh, Uzbek, and Kyrgyz heads of states on the latest events in the Republic of Tajikistan. The statement notes, among other things:

As a result of armed clashes between various political groups in their struggle for power in recent days [word indistinct], there are many fatalities, primarily among the civilian population. Blood is still being shed in [word indistinct]. In effect, this is civil war.

The constitutional political system and democratic reforms are in real jeopardy. In very large numbers, weapons and munitions are being smuggled into the Republic through the border with the southern neighboring states. The Tajik borders and the southern border of the Commonwealth of the Independent States are being systematically violated. There is now the real danger that the Republic of Tajikistan may be severed from the CIS countries and that it may lose its sovereignty. This situation cannot be tolerated any longer.

The extraordinary situation that has arisen in the Republic of Tajikistan requires that the CIS states, above all Russia, Kazakhstan, and the Central Asian states, take emergency measures. Guided by the norms of morality and international law, principles of humanness, and the provisions of the treaty on collective security signed by six states, including the Republic of Tajikistan, in Tashkent on 15 May of this year, we wish to state that the fraternal ties between our peoples are undissolvable, the southern borders of the Commonwealth are sacred, and that the escalation of the civil war is impermissible in the Republic of Tajikistan, which to various degrees threatens the interests of our peoples and which is damaging political stability in the region.

The Republic of Tajikistan, its government, and leaders of the political groupings are fully responsible for the situation that has taken shape in the region, the statement continues. The states of the Commonwealth and of the region are using their every right and all of their resources to defend the interests of their peoples.

In keeping with the Helsinki agreements, the Paris Charter, the principles of the UN and CSCE, the Human Rights Declaration, and in the interests of peace and stability in the region, an additional contingent of border troops will be sent and other urgent measures have been taken to protect the southern borders of the CIS.

At the same time, we are appealing to the fraternal people of Tajikistan to find strength to restore peace and civil concord, stability, and to stop the civil war.

The statement was signed by Presidents Boris Yeltsin, Nursultan Nazarbayev, Islam Karimov, and Askar Akayev.

Promise More Troops To Secure Frontiers

*OW0409101692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0959 GMT 4 Sep 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] More border troops will be sent to secure Tajikistan's southern frontiers and other urgent measures will be adopted. This is said in a statement by the leaders of Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan, released by the Foreign Ministry in Alma-Ata on Friday [4 September].

The action is necessitated by sharply growing social and political tension in Tajikistan, where "a civil war is virtually under way", arms and ammunition have been smuggled on a large scale across the border with southern neighboring states, and Tajikistan's frontier—the CIS southern boundary—has been systematically violated. As a result, "there is a real danger that the republic will be torn off the countries, comprising the CIS, and will lose its sovereignty".

The leaders of the four countries regard such a situation as "intolerable" and requiring "extraordinary measures".

Azerbaijan, Armenia Sign Cease-Fire Protocol

*LD0309191892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1742 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—The participants in today's meeting between representatives of Azerbaijan and Armenia, which began in the afternoon on the frontier of the two Transcaucasian republics, have signed a protocol on a cease-fire along the Armenian-Azerbaijani frontier, which will come into force as of 15 September.

The Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated, AZERINFORM correspondent Sabir Mirzoyev reports, that until then—from 7 until 10 September—the unofficial meeting of the Minsk CSCE group on Nagorno-Karabakh would take place in Rome, and it would examine questions connected with elaborating the cease-fire mechanism.

David Shakhnazaryan, member of the Armenian Supreme Soviet standing commission on issues of external relations, and Albert Salamov, Azerbaijani deputy minister of foreign affairs, the plenipotentiary representatives of the presidents of the two republics, met at the small settlement of Kayan-Avan on the border of the Idzhevskiy rayon of Armenia and the Kazakhskiy rayon of Azerbaijan, ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan reports. The meeting took place with the mediation of the personal envoys of the President of Kazakhstan who are in Yerevan and Baku to observe the implementation of the Alma-Ata agreements on a cease-fire in the region.

A protocol "on the implementation of the Alma-Ata memorandum" in which the sides, in particular, state their goodwill and desire to settle the conflict by political means, was signed after a short agreement.

Shakhnazaryan, plenipotentiary envoy of the president of Armenia, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent in an interview on the results of the meeting that he assessed it "simply as a fait accompli and not a political act, because the talks which we hoped for did not take place."

Asan Kozhakov, personal envoy of the president of Kazakhstan, noted that the signing of the protocol is confirmation that the sides will work in accordance with the Alma-Ata memorandum and the call by the CSCE group. The Kazakh diplomat stressed that he hopes the situation will improve, "that beginning with this small step we will forget the past, and that we will make the present and the future. There is no other way," he stated.

Armenian, Azerbaijani Envoys Meet

LD0409045792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 2335 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Kayan-Avan (Idzhevan rayon of Armenia), 4 September—The meeting between David Shakhnazaryan and Albert Salamov, authorized representatives of the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents, ended here on 3 September. Also present were personal representatives of the president of Kazakhstan. The two sides held unofficial talks after signing a protocol on adherence to the Alma-Ata memorandum and a cease-fire in the region. According to the Armenian delegation, the Azerbaijani side refused an official exchange of opinions, saying that it was empowered only to sign the protocol. Albert Salamov, who is Azerbaijan's deputy minister for foreign affairs, told ITAR-TASS that the unofficial conversation was "friendly and frank." He said that all the issues examined "were imbued with an interest in a cease-fire and in maintaining a stable peace." All of us, he continued, are interested in restoring peace to the Transcaucasus as soon as possible. Regarding ways of implementing the cease-fire, he said "they already exist and remain only to be put into effect." He voiced the opinion that the Armenian-Azerbaijani protocol on implementing the Alma-Ata memorandum "is the beginning of a major process."

David Shakhnazaryan, authorized representative of the Armenian president and deputy to the republic's parliament, told ITAR-TASS that "when it was on its way here, the Armenian delegation was hoping for more. In addition to signing the protocol, we were counting on official talks." On the afternoon of 3 September, he met Albert Salamov on the Armenia-Azerbaijan border. We had our own proposals on realistic ways to maintain the cease-fire, he said. In particular, on a two-way communications link between the Armenian and Azerbaijani Defense Ministries and communications at the local level between unit commanders to avert any attempts to

open fire. Nonetheless, he stressed, we have recorded an end to military operations, and even a cease-fire over the past few hours. I would very much like to hope, he said, that this protocol, like the Alma-Ata memorandum, will become a small but initial step towards stabilizing the situation on the state border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

At the same time, Shakhnazaryan continued, the issue of another flashpoint, Nagorno-Karabakh, remains open. In his opinion, "until Azerbaijan reconciles itself to the fact that the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] is an independent military and political factor, it will be difficult to count on a durable stabilization on the Armenia-Azerbaijan border." However, he believes, the very fact that Azerbaijan "is signing the protocol and halting military operations on the border already shows that Baku is indirectly taking into account the reality that the NKR exists as a political and also a military-political factor." D. Shakhnazaryan announced that during the unofficial conversation he handed to the Azerbaijani representative a list of violations recorded by Yerevan on the border since September 1 and expressed his hope of receiving realistic responses to the Armenian proposals.

Nazarbayev Invites Presidents to Alma-Ata

OW0309225292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1739 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to President Nazarbayev's press service, late last night the president made a statement in connection with the ceasefire on the Armenian-Azeri border. The document, in particular, reads: "At 1700 hours Moscow time on September 1, 1992, hostilities between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia were stopped. Having, for the time being, announced about this orally, the parties will sign a relevant protocol at 1500 hours on September 3. The document will be signed in the course of a meeting on the border between representatives of the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan, in the presence of representatives from Kazakhstan. This is the first and most difficult step towards the peaceful settlement of the prolonged conflict."

"It signifies the beginning of the practical implementation of the agreements reached at the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, and the Republic of Kazakhstan in Alma-Ata on August 27, 1992."

"I admire the wise and courageous decision of Presidents Elchibey and Ter-Petrosyan, who were able to suppress their emotions for the sake of the ultimate interests of the peoples of Azerbaijan and Armenia. I should also like to commend the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan upon the patience and perseverance they displayed in the

search for mutually acceptable solutions. It is now important to strengthen peace between the two nations, which is still very fragile, and immediately start creating mechanisms for monitoring the ceasefire.

"I propose that a trilateral working group hold a meeting to draft documents for a meeting between the Presidents of the three States which could take place in the capital of Kazakhstan."

IF [INTERFAX] Note: According to the personal envoy of the Kazakh President in Baku, Bani Gasymov, there have so far been no violations of the moratorium on hostilities along the Azeri-Armenian border imposed at 1700 hours on September 1. Gasymov told our correspondent that Kazakhstan is carrying on with its mediating efforts, now trying to ensure that the positive results that have been achieved are not lost. He said intensive consultations are now being held in Baku and Yerevan on building a mechanism for monitoring the ceasefire. In his view a meeting between Presidents Nazarbayev, Ter-Petrosyan, and Elchibey is possible if Azerbaijan and Armenia keep to the terms of the ceasefire agreement. As reported earlier, Azeri officials have repeatedly stressed that Azerbaijan regards the Alma-Ata agreements as only applying to hostilities along the Azeri-Armenian border, whereas "the liberation of the territories occupied by Armenian armed forces in Nagorno-Karabakh will continue."

CIS Defense Ministers' Meeting Continues

Shaposhnikov Upbeat

LD0309142992 Moscow *Mayak Radio Network*
in Russian 1220 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] An important meeting began in Moscow today. This is the meeting of CIS defense ministers. It is being held behind closed doors at the headquarters of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. Correspondent Sergey Osipovskiy reports from Moscow:

[Osipovskiy] The participants are preparing documents for the meeting to be held by the council of heads of CIS states on 26 September. The most important are the ones related to the concept of collective military security, the nuclear strategy of the Commonwealth, and the composition of the strategic forces.

Before the beginning of the meeting, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, held a spontaneous news conference. This is what he said, among other things:

[Begin Shaposhnikov recording] I think integration can be seen as one of the main general trends existing now in the CIS, especially since the Kiev meeting, the Bashkir meeting, and the Moscow meeting on 6 July. This pleases me. I have always believed—and still do—that what we had before, especially in the defense and economic spheres, but also in the cultural, art, and other fields, and in the sphere of relations, should not be destroyed but

consolidated. The trends of consolidation do exist at present. You know the statement by Nazarbayev and the statements by other leaders. Not only am I happy about them and do I favor them, but they are also in line with the way I feel and my convictions.

I think the high command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces will spare no effort to make sure there are no divergences in the defense sphere.

Alongside these trends are others, such as those of disintegration. I think people find the former trends more to their taste. What is pleasing is that the high command finds these trends more to their liking. [end recording]

[Osipovskiy] As you can hear, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov is in high spirits and feels that he is together with the people. The meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers of the Commonwealth countries will end on 4 September. We will find out about the decisions to be passed from a news conference of the participants, to be held tomorrow.

Ministers Agree on Collective Security

LD0309132192 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1253 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow September 3 *ITAR-TASS*—Participants in the meeting of the Defence Ministers' Council of the CIS countries on Thursday [3 September] agreed on the main principles and approaches to building a system of collective military security of the Commonwealth countries and submitted the draft of the relevant agreement for revision by experts. Simultaneously expert groups are working on draft agreements on the nuclear strategy of the CIS, on the composition of strategic forces and procedure for guiding them, as well as on the provision about the chief CIS military command. The Defence Ministers' Council is working on agreements regarding the organisation of links between the chief command of the CIS Armed Forces and command bodies of the Armed Forces of Commonwealth states, on procedure for transferring servicemen of the Armed Forces of the former Soviet Union into the Armed Forces of independent states, on enhancing the reliability of air traffic control.

The meeting, which resumed after a lunch break, was addressed by Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov who informed its participants on the results of his trip to Tajikistan.

Ministers Discuss Nuclear Strategy

LD0309164892 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1524 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin] txt
[Text] Moscow September 3 *TASS*—Nuclear strategy of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was

discussed at a meeting of the Council of Defence Ministers of the CIS member-countries on Thursday [3 September]. "I believe we shall find mutually acceptable solutions on the basis of the Alma-Ata agreements", Aleksandr Kotenkov, chief of the state-legal agency of the Russian president, told ITAR-TASS. He favoured the preservation of unified control and unified management of nuclear forces within the framework of the Supreme Command of the Joint Armed Forces of the CIS.

Non-nuclear status of Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan does not permit them to have strategic nuclear forces, Kotenkov said. These should be Russian forces, since Russia bears the responsibility to the world community for their safety. While these forces are kept in territories of other states, functions for their management and operation should be discharged with the participation of the Supreme Command of the Joint Armed Forces of the CIS, Kotenkov said.

Under the Alma-Ata agreement, the president of the Russian Federation has the right to make decisions on the use of nuclear weapons in coordination with heads of other countries of the CIS in whose territories nuclear forces are stationed, and for which commander-in-chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the CIS, Marshal of the Airforce Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, is directly responsible. Kotenkov believes that an intermediate variant should now be found. This approach will not require substantial modification of the existing agreements, although some adjustment will be needed, he said.

Lieutenant-General Valeriy Manilov, press secretary of the commander-in-chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the CIS, told ITAR-TASS that the Council of Defence Ministers will try to find a compromise on strategic nuclear forces that would suit all countries of the Commonwealth, both signatories to the treaty on collective security and those who do not participate in it. "We have learnt to listen to each other and look for mutually acceptable solutions", Manilov said.

Roundup of First Day Reported

LD0309205192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
2031 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Naryzhkin]

[Text] Moscow September 3 TASS—The first day of the CIS Defence Ministers' Council session held at the headquarters of the main command of the CIS Armed Forces today was productive enough.

Upon having referred to experts' consideration the most complex draft agreements that are in need of additional coordination, the council focused on those documents the signing of which is within its competence.

As a result, as Lieutenant General Leonid Ivashov, secretary of the CIS Defence Ministers' Council, told ITAR-TASS, the Council completed work on agreements

about organising communication between the main command and the control agencies of the Armed Forces of CIS states, a procedure for a transfer of the servicemen of the Armed Forces of the former Soviet Union for a further military service in the Armed Forces of independent states, a rise in the reliability of air traffic control with due regard for the socio-economic conditions of CIS countries.

The council reviewed the implementation CIS agreements on military matters and a statute of temporary procedure of the CIS Defence Ministers' Council and on relationships between the defence ministers.

The question of organising informational cooperation between the Armed Forces of the CIS and those of the states that are parties to an agreement that is to be discussed at subsequent CIS summits.

So, today the council succeeded in making specific decisions on all items on the agenda, with the exception of those that will be brought up for discussion at the forthcoming meeting of the heads of state in Bishkek. Work on these documents is expected to be finalised on Friday. They include the following draft agreements: On a concept of collective military security of CIS states, on a CIS nuclear strategy, on a composition of strategic forces and a procedure for controlling them, and a statute of the main command of the CIS Armed Forces.

The session is to be continued at ten a.m. [0600 GMT] on Friday and a concluding news conference is scheduled for 15.00. [1100 GMT]

No Agreement on Strategic Forces

OW0409104592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1002 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A session of the CIS Defence Ministers Council has failed to solve the issue on the makeup of a strategic forces command and operational procedure. On Friday [4 September], the 2d day of debates, Marshal Shaposhnikov, the CIS Strategic Forces Supreme Commander invited representatives from Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine to try to settle the differences in such a composition.

As usual, the stumbling block was the position of Ukraine, claiming the right of administrative control over strategic forces on its territory.

ITAR-TASS Press Review for 3 Sep

LD0309060892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0439 GMT 3 Sep 92

[“Press Review”—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 3 ITAR-TASS—The situation in the trouble areas of the former Soviet Union, primarily the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict remains to be the dominant theme of today's Moscow newspapers.

They are unanimous that the meeting between Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze and Abkhazian parliament chief Vladislav Ardzinba that will take place in Moscow today is a positive factor but they evaluate differently the prospects for these talks.

The newspaper NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA points out that "no matter what agreement Yeltsin, Shevardnadze and Ardzinba reach, there is practically no hope that peace will be established soon."

The same newspaper runs an interview with Confederation of the Caucasus's High-Land Peoples President Musa Shanibov who sounds pessimistic about prospects for restoring the Georgian-Abkhazian accord. He notes that as a result of the continued bloodshed, "the Caucasus can be turned into a cemetery of peoples".

The newspaper PRAVDA describes the north Caucasian region as "the zone of Russia's special interests". The newspaper writes that "there are about 40,000 refugees from Abkhazia in the area of Sochi, who were forced to leave their homes because of combat operations in the republic" and emphasises that these people "are waiting for the results of the talks between the Russian, Georgian and Abkhazian leaders and hope for their favourable outcome."

In SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, President Aslan Dzharimov of the Republic of Adygeya expressed great hope for a successful outcome of the Moscow meeting to settle the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. He noted, in part, that "peace and tranquility in southern Russia is contingent today on peace in Abkhazia."

The Army newspaper KRSNAYA ZVEZDA, commenting on developments in another flashpoint of Transcaucasia—the so-called Karabakh front—writes that "the truce that was promised to take hold in Karabakh on September 1 did not come." The newspaper emphasises that "as in Baku and Yerevan they are well aware that prospects for achieving peace in Karabakh soon are bleak, on both sides of the frontline they are out to absolve themselves from responsibility and shift it onto the neighbour."

Pointing out that "people in Karabakh are switching over to a guerrilla war," NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes that the guerrilla movement on the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, which is controlled by Azerbaijani troops, is gaining momentum and causing increasing trouble to them.

The youth newspaper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA features an article by its news analyst Aleksandr Vasilyev who evaluates critically Andrey Kozyrev's activity on the post of the Russian foreign minister.

In Vasilyev's view, the Russian Foreign Ministry does not have a clear-cut foreign policy concept of its own as yet and its chief pursues the openly pro-Western and particularly pro-U.S. policy. The author of the article believes that this course is humiliating for Russia that is the successor to the USSR.

The trade union newspaper TRUD runs an interview with Central Bank of Russia First Deputy Chairman A. Voylukov, who comments on monetary and financial stabilization in Russia.

Describing the situation in the country's economy as "very serious" as before, Voylukov stresses that "stabilisation proclaimed by the government was an early promise." This is evidenced by the fact that the budget deficit will, to all appearances, total 12 to 20 per cent (over a trillion roubles) upon the results of the year and inflation will not be able to be tamed.

In the run-up to Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA publishes the findings of the mass sociological poll of the country's citizens on the problem of the Kurils. "The survey unequivocally showed that the majority of Russia's citizens are against the transfer of the South Kuril islands to Japan," SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA emphasises.

For 4 Sep

LD0409061292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0449 GMT 4 Sep 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 4 ITAR-TASS—Newspapers focus their attention today on the meeting of the Russian, Georgian and Abkhazian leaders with the participation of North Caucasian leaders, held at the Moscow President Hotel on Thursday [3 September]. They discussed the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. "The leaders reached agreement in Moscow, and the field commanders—in Sukhumi. Does this mean that the war in Abkhazia is over?" NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes in this connection.

"It will be easier for Georgians to agree to a compromise, if they recall that the former Soviet Union responded to Georgia's declaration of independence not in the same way as Georgia—to the proclamation of sovereignty by Abkhazia," the newspaper stresses in an article dealing with the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. The newspaper reports that a final document was adopted at the Moscow meeting, the subject of which is the settlement in Abkhazia.

Newspapers give wide coverage to the session of the Council of Defence Ministers of the CIS member states, which opened in Moscow on September 3. "We are pinning much hope on the session, expecting it to promote the solution of a number of problems," Lieutenant General R. Akhmedov, defence minister of

Uzbekistan, told KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The session will continue its work today.

Newspapers continue to highlight the extremely unstable situation in Tajikistan. An article published by PRAVDA, which is entitled "What Is Behind the Putsch in Dushanbe?" deals with the developments connected with President Rakhman Nabiyev and gives the assessment of the information coming from various sources. "The seeds of discord sown by the organisers of massive rallies last spring have produced vigorous young growth by autumn. It is under the rule of the 'National Reconciliation Government' that the strife between clans in southern Tajikistan reached its peak. The ages-old custom of bloody revenge brought to naught all political agreements," the newspaper writes.

"We should not harden our hearts with revenge," Kazikolon Hadzhi Akbar Turad-Zhonzoda, head of Tajik Moslems, said in an interview with KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. He believes that "if this happens, we shall never find a way out of the current situation. What is required from us these days is the maximum of self-control and patience." He referred to the continuing clashes of the warring groups, which also affected the religious sphere. "The split is not in the belief itself. It remains common to us all. The split is in the administrative management alone," he said.

"Russia's nuclear missile troops are a reliable means of ensuring global stability in the foreseeable future both in the political, military and economic spheres," Colonel General Aleksandr Ryazhskikh, deputy commander-in-chief of the strategic missile troops, said in an interview with KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. In comparison with other armed services, the missile troops have the smallest strength and require the smallest amount of

investments, he believes. According to Ryazhskikh, only seven to nine per cent of defence spendings go to the maintenance of the missile troops.

Vyacheslav Shtyrov, vice president of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutiya), said in an interview with the newspaper: "The republic is part of Russia, and we have never dreamed of secession." According to Shtyrov, the two republics are bound by economic ties, in the first place. With this in mind, President Yeltsin sanctioned by his decree the creation of a Russian-Yakut company for the production, cutting and marketing of diamonds. It will embrace in a single structure the whole of the technological process. Shtyrov believes the company will be able to offer tough competition in the future to the transnational firm De Beers, which is now a monopolist on the diamond market.

TRUD carries a number of short articles under the heading "Businessmen's Club". One and the same question was put to the authors of the articles: "What would you do if you were the prime minister?" Russian businessmen assess in these articles the economic situation in the country and put forward their ideas on the subject.

"Russia is a great country. It has been and will continue to be one of the two leading world powers," Yitzhaq Shamir, former Israeli prime minister, said in an interview with PRAVDA. He praised the quest for peace in the Middle East. Touching upon the tough stand of the government headed by him, Shamir said it was the result of several factors, including the "geopolitical realities in the Middle East" and "the interests and aspirations of the Israeli people." At the same time, he expressed confidence that "peace can and should be achieved. Maximum effort should be exerted in order to make peace in line with the Camp David accords."

Yeltsin Opens Conference on Georgia Conflict*LD0309120892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1150 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Gennadiy Talalayev and Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep—The meeting on settling the conflict between Georgia and Abkhazia began today at Moscow's "President Hotel." Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze, and leaders of Abkhazia and the republics of the northern Caucasus as well as of krais and oblasts in southern Russia are taking part in it.

Opening the meeting, Boris Yeltsin stressed the urgent need to settle the conflict as soon as possible. Unless we agree on something today, he said, there may be a major conflagration in the south of Russia. The president stated that "Russia cannot remain uninvolved and calmly watch while people die and the danger grows of the sparks of the conflict spreading to the southern regions of Russian territory. [no closing quotation mark as received]

Moscow Agreement on Abkhazia*LD0409093792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0640 GMT 4 Sep 92*

["Final Document of Moscow Meeting of 3 September 1992"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] [no dateline as received]—The president of the Russian Federation and the chairman of the Georgian State Council, have discussed, with the participation of the leaders of Abkhazia, the North Caucasian republics, and Russian krais and oblasts, the situation that has developed in Abkhazia. Desiring an early cease-fire, the overcoming of the emergency crisis situation, and the creation of conditions for a full-scale political settlement in Abkhazia, which has become an area of armed conflict, they have confirmed their adherence to the spirit and the letter of the UN Charter, the principles of the CSCE Final Act, the Paris Charter for a New Europe, and the Helsinki Declaration of 1992. Regarding as impermissible any infringements of the universally recognized principles of the territorial integrity of states and the inviolability of their borders, and respecting human rights and liberties, and also the rights of ethnic minorities, they have agreed on the following:

Article 1

- The integrity of the Republic of Georgia is to be ensured.

- All armed formations participating in the conflict are to cease fire and refrain from any use of force against each other from 1200 on 5 September. Moreover, the sides involved in the conflict undertake to refrain from any offensive actions before the cease-fire comes into force.

At the same time a monitoring and inspection commission is being created, made up of representatives appointed by the power bodies of Georgia—including Abkhazia—and Russia. The commission is to ensure observance of the cease-fire and the fulfillment of other provisions of this agreement in accordance with the procedures it has devised.

To fulfill the tasks entrusted to it, the participants in the commission are to attach to it corresponding units which will carry out the disarmament, disbandment, and removal from Abkhazia and also prevent the entry into Abkhazia of illegal armed formations and groups, so as to ensure strict monitoring of the entire perimeter of the conflict zone.

The commission is to maintain supervision to ensure that, following the cease-fire and the redeployment of troops, the armed forces of the Republic of Georgia in the conflict zone do not exceed the agreed level required to achieve the objectives of this agreement (protecting railways and certain other facilities).

The commission's recommendations are to be immediately examined by authorities at all levels.

Article 2

The exchange of detained persons, hostages, prisoners, and others, on the "all for all" principle is to be carried out before 10 September 1992.

Article 3

The sides are to prohibit and shun any acts of terrorism and the seizure of hostages and to take effective measures to call those guilty to account.

Article 4

Immediate measures are to be taken to remove obstacles to the movement of goods, services, and persons engaged in lawful activities. The uninterrupted and safe functioning of the relevant ground, air, and sea routes, and protection of the border will be ensured.

Particular attention will be devoted to ensuring the security of relevant sectors of the Transcaucasus Railway, including by the creation of a joint mechanism.

A monitoring and inspection commission will submit the necessary recommendations on the question.

Article 5

Conditions are to be ensured for the return of refugees to their places of permanent residence. The necessary assistance and aid are to be provided for them.

Measures are to be adopted to locate missing persons and to evacuate those wishing to leave Abkhazia.

Article 6

In the area of conflict, effective measures are to be adopted to end and prevent violence and robbery, and to bring the guilty to justice.

Article 7

The sides will take measures to restore the stricken regions and to give humanitarian aid, including aid on an international basis, to the population which suffered during the conflict. Red Cross organizations, in coordination with the monitoring and inspection commission, will undertake to determine the procedure for delivering and distributing such aid.

Article 8

The sides confirm the necessity of observing international norms in the sphere of human rights and national minorities, of preventing citizens' rights being discriminated against on grounds of ethnic origin, language, and religion, and of ensuring that free and democratic elections are conducted.

Article 9

The armed forces of the Russian Federation which are temporarily located on the territory of the Republic of Georgia, including in Abkhazia, observe strict neutrality and do not take part in internal conflicts.

All organs of state power and administration in the Republic of Georgia, including in Abkhazia, undertake to respect the neutrality of the Russian armed forces located there and to put a stop to any illegal actions directed against servicemen, members of their families, and military property.

Article 10

The sides will facilitate the resumption, by 15 September 1992, of the normal activities of the legitimate organs of power in Abkhazia.

Article 11

The organs of power and administration of the republics, krais, and oblasts of the North Caucasus within the Russian Federation will adopt effective measures to halt and prevent any actions from their territory that deviate from the provisions of the present agreement. They will facilitate its implementation and the establishment of peace in the region. They will make efforts to explain the provisions of the present agreement to the population.

Article 12

The sides request that the United Nations and the CSCE support the settlement principles set out above and provide assistance with their implementation, including the dispatch of fact-finding missions and observers.

Leaders Interviewed on Talks

*LD0309214492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1800 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Text] It appears that the complex, dramatic, and contradictory negotiations which were held today in Moscow's Hotel President have resulted in consensus, thus making it possible to restore peace and calm in Abkhazia. Boris Yeltsin, Eduard Shevardnadze, Vladislav Ardzinba, and leaders of the krais and oblasts bordering on the North Caucasus, signed a final document. Our correspondent Vyacheslav Osipov, who followed the ebb and flow of the talks, reports:

[Osipov] When Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze spoke to correspondents, one could judge from the tone of their pronouncements that they vowed to put an end to the bloodshed in Abkhazia. One could not help thinking: May God will it so. Maybe our old and young politicians will realize that it is far more useful to sit down at the negotiating table than to kill each other. The path to this understanding has been fairly complex and contradictory, as made clear by the pronouncements made by the participants in the talks. Therefore, journalists were most interested in the way the agreement—albeit a compromise—would be implemented. In this connection Boris Yeltsin said:

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] This agreement envisages the establishment of a commission made up of representatives from Georgia, Russia, and Abkhazia. Their constant preoccupation will be the issues of the North Caucasus, Abkhazia, and Georgia. The most important thing, of course, is to make sure that the military confrontation ends. We have set the time—from 1200 on 5 September.

[Unidentified correspondent] For the cease-fire?

[Yeltsin] For the cease-fire. [end recording]

[Osipov] It goes without saying that no matter how fruitful the work of the commission may be, it cannot fully restore order and peace, or most important of all, re-establish trust between Georgians and Abkhazians. I think this was precisely what Eduard Shevardnadze had in mind when he said:

[Begin recording] [Shevardnadze] The implementation of the agreement will not be easy. It will not be easy. But we reached a firm decision today. I think that, unquestionably and without exaggeration, today's meeting will go down in history—the history of the Caucasus at any rate, of relations between Russia and the Caucasus states.

[Yeltsin] And Georgia.

[Shevardnadze] And Georgia. We shall not allow everything that has been said just to remain on paper. We shall fight to ensure that peace reigns in this difficult region of ours. I tell you straight, Boris Nikolayevich, that if we do

not manage to implement the accords that have been reached, the Caucasus will turn into a second Lebanon. [end recording]

[Osipov] Shevardnadze mentioned Lebanon, a country where the principal danger stemmed from armed formations. In Abkhazia these armed formations are the Georgian troops and also the illegal groups from the Confederation of Highland Peoples. What will be done about this?

[Begin Shevardnadze recording] If they stay, they will do so in order to carry out one principal function, the function for which they were originally brought in—the protection of the country, the protection of the railway, the protection of roads and bridges. [end recording]

[Osipov] The Abkhaz side agreed to sign the document after a number of speeches by representatives of other peoples living in the North Caucasus. There was no indication from the expression on Vladislav Ardzinba's face that he was completely happy. However, I may be wrong. After all, the man has experienced a dramatic moment in his life, one that almost ended in tragedy.

[Begin Ardzinba recording] I signed it because genocide is being committed on Abkhaz territory, genocide against the Abkhaz people. Tens of thousands of people are being expelled from there—Russians, Armenians, and Greeks. Huge destruction, colossal damage has been caused in the republic. I have also signed this document, although I am aware of substantial hidden dangers which lie beneath this entire document. They could, in principle, have serious consequences. But I place my hopes here, I place great hopes, in the position of Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, in the position adopted by the leaders of the republics who have firmly stated that in this situation, which is very complicated from the material and other points of view, they will help in every way and will not allow the extermination of the Abkhaz people, nor the further trampling of human rights in Abkhazia. [end recording]

[Osipov] These pronouncements were sealed with a manly handshake among all the leaders. If only the neighbors would extend a hand to each other more often.

Grachev Outlines Role of Russian Forces

LD0409110292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1033 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Russian troops stationed in Abkhazia will not participate in the initial stage of the settlement of the conflict in Georgia, Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev told TASS on Friday [4 September].

The Russian troops are maintaining strict neutrality, but they can be later engaged in guarding enterprises and other important production facilities, according to the minister.

The leaders of Russia and Georgia agreed to create a commission which will deal with problems of providing security in Abkhazia, including protection of railways and other major objects. It is headed by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Georgiy Khizha.

"It is not excluded that commission members will decide that all interested sides should be involved in solving security problems. In this case the question may arise about interaction of Russian peace-keeping forces, the Georgian army and Abkhazian interior troops and police", Grachev said.

The disengagement of the conflicting sides will begin on Saturday [5 September]. However, Grachev said he was told by his Georgian counterpart Tengiz Kitovani that Georgia will start pulling out its heavy military hardware from Abkhazia already on Friday.

Yeltsin Meets UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali

LD0409110592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1030 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalaev]

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—"Reforms in Russia go according to plan but with serious difficulties," Boris Yeltsin said at the talks with U.N. Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali, who came to Moscow for a visit.

Yeltsin noted that the government "has to take unpopular measures, but nevertheless we have embarked on the second stage, running from 1993 to 1994, in order to deepen reforms."

"Despite predictions of failure by some Russian politicians, who said that the reform will collapse in two to three months, we move ahead according to plan," he emphasised. "Of course, people take the brunt. But we are trying to create a social safety net and I am convinced that the Russian people will withstand this test."

Speaking about Russian cooperation with the United Nations, the president expressed full support for the activity of this organisation, including its practical operations. "From ideological incantations in support of the U.N. by leaders of the former Soviet Union, we move towards a rethink of Russia's participation in this organisation and its practical support," Yeltsin said.

The Russian president's spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov told journalists that "Butrus-Ghali expressed his admiration at the president's courage and consistency in pursuing reform." The secretary-general said that Russia set an example of how one should pursue reform at the U.N. with persistence and in defiance of difficulties. "Without a new Russia, without its assistance it would be practically impossible to start reforms at the U.N.," Ghali added.

Speaking about Thursday's meeting in Moscow on the conflict between Georgia and Abkhazia, Ghali emphasised that Russia scored a major diplomatic victory

which is important in that it gives a precedent for the world community in dealing with such conflicts.

Outlines Russia's Policy Toward UN

LD0409124292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1148 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—The United Nations Organisation is often late with its peace-keeping efforts in "hot spots" of the world. It begins to broker peace when the fire is already raging and it is difficult or impossible to put it out, spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov quoted Russian President Boris Yeltsin as saying at a meeting with visiting U.N. Secretary General Butrus Ghali on Friday [4 September].

Russia, in its turn, has brokered peace in two "hot beds" in the former Soviet Union and is actively engaged in ensuring peace in the third one, according to the president.

Russia which has 20 republics managed to avoid bloodshed. "We use the practice of soft diplomacy and support dialogue by all means", the president was quoted as saying.

However, blood is being shed around Russia and "we cannot be indifferent when people are being killed, including Russians. We are ready and try to act as guarantors in settling the conflicts", Yeltsin said. He cited the Russian-Georgian summit on Abkhazia which was held yesterday as an example of Russian effective mediation. Russia also brokered peace in South Ossetia and the Dniester region.

The president proposed to create a CSCE peace-keeping mechanism, which would not contrapose to the U.N. forces, but would become its subsidiary. It is important that decisions are adopted quickly and the interference of peace-keepers is effective, the president said, adding that such a mechanism's fast reaction has already been created in the Commonwealth.

Russia will continue to financially support the United Nations despite a difficult economic situation in the country, Yeltsin assured Ghali. The spokesman explained that Russia will contribute 80 million dollars beginning from September and the same amount of money in the first quarter of 1993. The finances do not "cover our debts, but it is a serious effort from our side", Yeltsin was quoted as saying.

Russia will not follow Soviet neutrality in implementing decisions of the the U.N. Security Council and will act jointly with other countries, according to Yeltsin. "This is not always easy. It was psychologically difficult for us to adopt the decision on Yugoslavia. It would be easier to abstain, but we voted together with other civilised states and are participating in the implementation of adopted decisions. Earlier Russia limited itself to statements and now we are sending two big ships to the Persian Gulf to make Iraq fulfil U.N. resolutions", Yeltsin said.

Butrus Ghali expressed "delight over the courage and consistency of the (Russian) president in implementing reforms". Russia serves as a example of how reforms are to be implemented in the United Nations, he added. "Without a new Russia, without its help it would be practically impossible to begin reorganising the United Nations", Ghali said.

Russia won a big diplomatic victory at the yesterday meeting on the settlement of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. It is an important precedent for the international community in solving such conflicts, the secretary general added.

Security May Postpone Yeltsin's Japan Visit

LD0309211192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
2049 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Genadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Sep (TASS)—Hysteria stirred up in Japan in connection with Boris Yeltsin's forthcoming visit causes concern of the presidential security service, Boris Ratnikov, first deputy chief of the main security department of the Russian Federation, said on Thursday [3 September]. Officials preparing the visit who went to Tokyo, established a number of negative aspects in the political situation which will affect the safety of the president and members of the Russian Delegation, Ratnikov told reporters.

Although Russian officials persisted in demands for tighter security measures, the Japanese side refused to allow Yeltsin's bodyguards to carry guns, Ratnikov said. The Japanese side prohibits the bringing of firearms into Japan and restrict the participation of Russian security officials, even unarmed, in all security measures connected with the president's travel and sightseeing.

The Japanese side is striving to get the Russian president to the negotiating table at once, without giving him an opportunity to travel and go sightseeing in Tokyo, Ratnikov said. The Japanese Special Services themselves voice concern that they are unable to give full guarantee of security if the Russian president once stops on route and meets people. The Japanese Special Services also stated they cannot give full guarantee of safety if the president visits a stadium where competitions in sumo wrestling are held. The same applies to the visit to the cemetery to lay a wreath to the monument to Russian sailors.

Incidentally, Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, during a meeting with his Russian counterpart Andrei Kozyrev, voiced concern about the President's visiting a stadium, Ratnikov said.

"Concern over this state of things and a sense of responsibility to the people for the president's life and health prompted us to make this statement," Ratnikov said.

Ratnikov announced that he is to leave for Japan to work out security measures. "If we are not satisfied with security measures, we shall recommend to the president to postpone his visit until the situation normalises," Ratnikov said.

Mikhail Barsukov, chief of the main security department of the Russian Federation, who participated in the meeting, added that "the Japanese side is not inclined to contacts, constantly counters our proposals and does not enable us to fulfill our tasks in full measure." Even at the height of the Cold War security services interacted during state visits, Barsukov said. The U.S. side does not object to Russian guards carrying arms.

[Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1900 GMT on 3 September carries a related statement by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev: "I think it's one of those serious issues that still have to be worked on during the run-up to the visit. That is also the point of our meetings. Questions of security are primarily, of course, questions for experts on security problems. We still have some time in which to make up our minds on all these things."]

Text of Security Service Statement

*LD0309171692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1540 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Text of announcement issued by the presidential security service in Moscow on 3 September]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep (ITAR-TASS)— "During the process of the preliminary study of the issues connected with ensuring security for the Russian president's visit to Japan, there have appeared a number of material negative factors indicating the absence of a complete guarantee of the security for the important Russian delegation's visit there.

"So, despite this being the first visit by the head of the Russian state, the majority of Japan's extreme right-wing organizations, which demand the unconditional 'return of the Northern Territories,' are protesting strongly against the Russian president's visit to Tokyo.

"A similar activeness is also being shown by ultra-left organizations, which want to see the Russian Federation president removed from power for 'ignoring the interests of the working class.'

"During the upcoming days before his arrival, these organizations intend to stage mass rallies and demonstrations in order to apply psychological pressure to the Japanese Government's position on the territorial question.

"A vivid example of extremism is provided by the incident involving an attempt by a member of a right-wing extremist organization to break through, in a blazing car, to the prime minister's residence 15 minutes before Yu.V. Petrov, the representative of the Russian Federation's president, arrived there.

"Despite the preventive measures being taken, the Japanese police do not rule out the possibility that extremists will perpetrate acts of hooliganism vis-a-vis members of the Russian delegation. On 9 August this year alone, over 200 different organizations took part in rallies and demonstrations organized in 24 of the country's prefectures as part of a unified day of anti-Russian action.

"A preliminary draft of the visit schedule shows that Japan's special services do not provide a complete guarantee of security while the Russian president and members of the Russian delegation are visiting places of interest in Japan as part of his cultural program.

"Apart from the mentioned negative factors, the special services maintain a rigid prohibitory position regarding members of the personal guard of the president of the Russian Federation bringing fire arms to the country of destination. A desire by the Japanese special services to restrict the participation by members of the personal guard, even unarmed, in measures guaranteeing the safety of the Russian president can be obviously traced. In connection with the above-mentioned, the security service of the president of the Russian Federation thinks it its duty to make the following statement:

"1. The security service of the Russian president, as the body responsible for the president's life and health to the Russian people, is extremely worried by this turn of events during the preparation of the visit.

"In this connection, the decision has been made to send senior officials of the main protection [okhrana] administration of the Russian Federation to Tokyo with the aim of obtaining full guarantees for the safety of the president's visit and guarding him against powerful psychological pressure and persecution and, on the whole, against causing moral and political damage to the young Russian state."

[Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 1600 GMT on 3 September adds to this report: "Boris Yeltsin's security service intends to recommend that his visit to Japan be postponed."]

Economic Cooperation Committee Formed With Japan

*LD0309183992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1140 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Varlamov]

[Text] Tokyo September 3 ITAR-TASS—Russia and Japan have set up a standing mixed commission for economic cooperation between the Far East and the Hokkaido Island in order to strengthen Russian-Japanese business links, enrich them with new forms of interaction. The relevant protocol was signed in Sapporo on 3 September by head of the Russian delegation, Russian Federation Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Vladimir Shibayev and Hokkaido Governor Takahiro Yokomichi. Subsequently they were appointed heads of respectively Russian and Japanese parts of the commission.

This event signifies a new, higher level of relations between the closest regions of our countries, ITAR-TASS was told by Russia's Consul General in Sapporo Ishimbay Abdurrazakov. He noted that the activity of the new Russian-Japanese body provides for developing cooperation between the Sakhalin region, the Maritime and Khabarovsk territories with Hokkaido in many areas, including industry, agriculture, scientific and cultural links.

Also today the mixed commission held the first meeting to approve the program for economic cooperation. In the Sakhalin region alone the program envisages 24 areas of cooperation, including trade, industry, transport, tourism, communications, banking, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and other fields. Particularly, it is planned to open a regular air line between Sakhalin and Hokkaido, to organise a ferry service between the islands, to start production of consumer goods on Sakhalin, to organise joint development of coal deposits, and to implement scientific and technological contacts in exploring sea resources.

Hokkaido attaches great importance to developing links with the Far East. Opening the meeting of the mixed commission, Governor Yokomichi said that stronger economic links with Russia's Far East will help turn "Hokkaido from Japan's 'northernmost island' into its northern commercial gates".

Iraq 'Regrets' Dispatch of Russian Warships

LD0309140792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1304 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Fyodortsov]

[Text] Jakarta September 3 TASS—"Iraq regrets Russia's decision to dispatch two warships to the Persian Gulf," Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yasin Ramadan, told a press conference here today. He heads an Iraqi delegation to the 10th summit conference of unaligned states now under way here.

Taha Yasin Ramadan also stressed that the establishment of a "prohibited air zone" was a violation of all laws and was historically unprecedented.

Chinese Spokesman Welcomes Planned Yeltsin Visit

LD0309125192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1216 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Spirin]

[Text] Beijing September 3 TASS—China is looking forward to Russian President Boris Yeltsin's official visit, which is scheduled for mid December, and holds that it is meant to help boost good neighbourly cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the five principles of peaceful co-existence, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmin said at a briefing for Chinese and foreign journalists today.

Commenting at the ITAR-TASS request on the state of Chinese-Russian relations, Wu noted that Russia is the biggest state that shares the border with China. The present ties and contacts between the two countries can be described as good. They are expanding rapidly especially in the economy. A further development of these relations in the direction of friendship and good neighbourliness meets the vital interests of our peoples, Wu emphasised.

New Border Crossing To Open With China

LD0309150392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0100 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Vitrishchak]

[Summary] Bikin (Khabarovsk Kray), 3 Sep—A new road checkpoint and customs post are to open early next year on the Russian-Chinese border in the village of Pokrovka, Bikinskiy Rayon, Khabarovsk Kray, to cope with the growing trade and economic ties between the Russian Far East and China. Simplified tourist visa procedures are also envisaged.

Foreign Ministry Concerned Over German Violence

LD0409110192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1023 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—"Russia is following with concern the growth of nationalistic and right-wing extremist feelings in Germany, which manifested itself during the recent outrageous actions of extremists and neo-Nazis in Rostock, Cottbus and other German cities, which were accompanied by pogroms and violent actions against foreigners," says a statement of the Russian Foreign Ministry, circulated here today.

The statement pointed out that those actions "threaten the safety of Russian citizens in Germany."

"We point out that the German official and political circles strongly denounced those incidents and hope the German authorities will take appropriate measures for curbing such unseemly actions, and the rights and safety of citizens, including foreigners, will be duly protected," the statement stressed.

Kozyrev Assailed as 'Westernizer,' Idealist

PM0309144392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 3 Sep 92 p 3

[Article by Aleksandr Vasilyev: "Russia's Foreign Policy: No Trump Cards With Kozyrev? Our Observer Takes Issue With Foreign Minister"]

[Text] When you spend a long time persistently criticizing someone over something but the target of your attention simply refuses to change, you cannot help beginning to respect him for his obstinacy, and sometimes the thought steals into your head: Maybe he is right in some respects? You begin to reread your opponent's

works, to listen to his remarks even more closely, and to analyze his actions even more carefully.

I am talking about Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. Together with Yegor Gaydar, lately he has become a sacred cow for Boris Yeltsin, a symbol that the president needs to confirm his democratic aspirations. So, as far as you can, you have to take refuge behind quotations from foreign newspapers, to ensure that you are not categorized as one of the "red-browns." For instance, here is how NOVOYE VREMYA, the unofficial Foreign Ministry organ under all ministers, describes A. Kozyrev's opponents: "Why do people attack Minister Kozyrev? Because he upholds a certain position: Without civilized behavior in international affairs (including relations with the former Soviet republics) the road to the civilized world is closed to Russia. The nationalists [derzhavniki] and national socialists do not like his intellectual ways, liberal views, level of thinking, and approach to problems." Then there is a real pearl: "They regard Kozyrev, like any decent democrat, as a secret Jew."

Not everyone cares for it when they are ridiculously caricatured instead of an attempt being made to conduct a debate. However, it is impossible not to "attack" Kozyrev, so I will take refuge behind a quotation from an article by Jonathan Steele, the correspondent of London's THE GUARDIAN: "During his trip to Kabul in May Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev drew up a joint statement saying that the Russian Federation and the Islamic State of Afghanistan noted the similarity between the historical fates of the two countries, which were victims of communist totalitarianism. This is an example of stupidity comparable only with Kozyrev's decision to put on a mujahedin hat to delight the photographers."

The article by J. Steele, who risks being put down as an admirer of Zhirinovskiy, was written before our embassy in Kabul began to come under direct fire and before the deaths there of two Russian citizens who fell victim to the blind fury of the mujahedin and to Moscow's doomed "new diplomacy" in Afghanistan. This episode has had no impact on Andrey Vladimirovich's official position, just as it will not be affected by the desperation of the 150 Russians trapped in Kabul. Send Kozyrev off into retirement? What are you talking about, that is stupid.

Real power cures idealists. It would be good to send Andrey Kozyrev off to head some small Caucasus republic. Then he would discover an incontrovertible truth: At critical moments the surrounding world is divided into "your own people" and "outsiders," and everything depends on whose side you are on. The fact that he had long been captive to the "new thinking" did not prevent Eduard Shevardnadze from sending troops into Abkhazia for the sake of preserving Georgia's territorial integrity. It is impossible to detect any difference between Kitovani's guards plundering Sukhumi and the Soviet soldiers who killed several people in Tbilisi with sapper shovels. A noisy investigation was organized back

then and the soldiers were described as fascists. Eduard Amvrosiyevich tried to resign as USSR foreign minister. Today the Abkhazians are describing Shevardnadze himself as a fascist, while he is using the same word of the volunteers from the North Caucasus who have come to Abkhazia's assistance. Each side is right in a way: both the Georgians who want to preserve a unified Georgia, and the Abkhazians fighting for their independence.

"People of a Westernizing sort—and that is precisely what the present minister is—run a risk of losing touch with home realities," Yevgeniy Kozhokin, chairman of the parliamentary subcommittee on international security and intelligence, said of Andrey Kozyrev. "When they come to power, Westernizers must cease to be Westernizers. You can be a Westernizer only when you are in opposition."

A. Kozyrev recently published a long article about foreign policy issues under the headline "The Transformation, or Kafkaesque Metamorphosis." Let us take a look at what the article contains. The same old Westernism going to absurd lengths. Take the following lines, for instance: "History itself has passed its verdict: Any power that does not emanate from the people and is based not on honest and free elections but on usurpation by a small group who claim to possess absolute truth is unlawful from the viewpoint of contemporary legal and political awareness."

So when Russian officials hold talks, including talks about granting credits, with the leaders of Arab states, they are dealing with unlawful authorities? After all, nobody elected the king of Saudi Arabia and the emir of Kuwait. It would also be interesting to have a little discussion on this topic with the leaders of China, which Boris Yeltsin is intending to visit in October.

The author of "Kafkaesque Metamorphosis" gives the present Russian leadership, of which he is himself a member, credit for the fact that "Russia, for the first time in its history, has an unprecedentedly favorable international environment at a time of extremely grave domestic ordeals." According to Kozyrev, a "favorable international environment" is when virtually half our neighbors are trying to hack off a bit of Russian territory, when the Russian-speaking population in the CIS republics is being deprived of the right to vote and to own property, and when every state on our southern borders is in a state of war. Maybe the minister has in mind the fact that the United States and its NATO allies have stopped flexing their nuclear muscle at Moscow, but in that case it becomes clear why the Russian Foreign Ministry is accused of not paying attention toward "nearby foreign lands."

The head of the Russian foreign policy department, no matter how much he may badmouth the "accursed Soviet past," has borrowed a great deal from the Gorbachev-Shevardnadze team. After all, it was precisely in the perestroika era that the Soviet Union's leaders created the myth of the "civilized, prosperous West"

toward which we were steadily drawing closer and which was holding out its soft, warm hands to us. Their intention was that this myth was supposed to help to maintain the Kremlin dreamers' prestige among the working masses. And when Andrey Kozyrev claims that the West's support for the struggling [Russian] "White House" "convinced us for the umpteenth time that it is indeed the ally of free democratic Russia," he is again not being straight with his esteemed readers: The low-key reaction to the coup on the part of Presidents George Bush and Francois Mitterrand is widely known. However, Andrey Vladimirovich continues to invent a so-called "civilized world" because it is only in such a world that the existence of a minister who is an idealist is justified.

Last spring was marked by an increase in U.S. political and economic pressure on Russia about the Russian-Indian space project: Washington was supposedly afraid that the project would contribute to the proliferation of rocket technology that could be used for military purposes. The recommendations on this issue that the Russian Foreign Ministry sent to Boris Yeltsin went along with the American demands: The contract should be broken for the sake of civilized face-saving. It is simply miraculous that the deal with the Indians was successfully defended during infighting in the Moscow corridors of power.

You would think that Washington ought to be behaving in the international arena in accordance with the rules that it is tirelessly trying to teach to Russia. Far from it! In June the Bush administration published a list of what it sees as the world's most dangerous missile projects in order to prohibit U.S. companies from selling any materials to the firms implementing these projects. However, several foreign governments interested in obtaining missile technologies pressured the White House, and the list was considerably shortened.

The trick is this: U.S. legislation prohibits U.S. firms from selling anything for a project "known" to relate to missiles without a special export license. However, the only juridical method of "learning" this is to see the U.S. Department of Commerce list. If a project is not deleted from the list, it means it must be okay. "These deletions," THE WASHINGTON POST writes, "mean that U.S. firms can continue to fuel the process of missile proliferation, especially in the Near East, by selling equipment and technology and at the same time claim that they do not know which of these projects envisage creating missile technology."

Andrey Kozyrev would certainly be interested to learn which projects were deleted from the U.S. Department of Commerce list: Egypt's improved "Scud" and "Condor-2" missiles; Iraq's "Scud-B," "Al-Husayn," "Al-'Abbas," "Condor-2," "Tammuz," and "Al-'Abid" missiles; Israel's "Jericho-1," "Jericho-2," and "Shavit" missiles; Libya's "Scud" and "Al-Fatih"; Syria's "Scud"; and Argentina's "Condor-1," "Condor-2," and "Alacran." At present there is a total embargo on Iraq, but this

has never been an obstacle to enterprising businessmen with extensive links in U.S. Government circles. Against the background of this information A. Kozyrev's statement that the West sold weapons to stable, pro-Western regimes, while the "totalitarian Soviet Union" sold them to any old "international ruffian" looks strange, to say the least. Moscow armed Saddam Husayn together with the United States and West Europe.

Since Eduard Shevardnadze's times every "democratic" foreign minister has regarded it as his duty to ostentatiously distance himself from the special services, especially the Foreign Intelligence Service. Boris Pankin, for instance, declared that he would never grant diplomatic "cover" to its staffers. Andrey Kozyrev has shown no originality either.

As is well known, a network of Russian scientific and technical intelligence agents was uncovered last April in West Europe. On the eve of Boris Yeltsin's visit to the United States and the July meeting of the "Big Seven," during which the prospect of granting credits to Russia was to be discussed, the West demanded that Moscow... cease intelligence activity abroad. Our "Westernizers" accepted this demand as a guide to action, and as early as in May a special commission met at the Foreign Intelligence Service headquarters in Yasenevo to study the possibility of closing the "T" Directorate—the component engaging in scientific and technical espionage.

Now let us turn to the newspapers of the "civilized world," since they and probably MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI are the only ones trusted by our "Westernizers." The U.S. WALL STREET JOURNAL, for instance, writes that the end of the "cold war" era and the loss of competitiveness of U.S. goods in the world market are forcing the leading U.S. intelligence agencies to fundamentally change their sphere of activity and look to industrial espionage. The paper stresses that the administration and Congress are now actively elaborating plans for changing the strategy of the intelligence services' work.

I have never heard of former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker or his successor Lawrence Eagleburger categorizing the Pentagon or the CIA as the "war party." Andrey Kozyrev and his supporters do not stand on ceremony when it comes to Russia's "strong-arm" ministries. As a result their prestige among society is declining and appropriations are being cut.

We read in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, no less, that CIA devices were found in U.S. supercomputers bought at great expense for a secret enterprise engaging in aviation and space research. The "bugs" had been installed to collect secret information, and after a while they were supposed to destroy the computer. After this 200 computers from this firm at 107 defense enterprises were checked, and 20 similar devices were found in 8 of them. The U.S. "war party" is continuing to operate, but Kozyrev is far more afraid of our own.

During the recent parliamentary hearings the foreign minister admitted that Russia still lacks a concept of foreign policy. How is our foreign policy line determined? Any old how. With regard to Cuba, for instance, it is determined by the United States, which is steering a course toward the overthrow of the Fidel Castro regime. While Moscow is curtailing cooperation with Havana under pressure from Washington, its place is being taken by the French, Italians, and Spanish. They realize that the Cuban market will belong to the Americans if Castro falls. But Russia loses out whatever happens.

We have learned from well-informed sources the details of preparations for Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan and South Korea. The other day the Russian Foreign Ministry received the following idea from the U.S. State Department: Apologize for the downing of "KAL-007," the South Korean passenger aircraft, during the visit to Seoul. Moreover, the Americans told us to receive in Moscow a delegation of the committee in remembrance of the victims of "KAL-007," to create an interdepartmental commission to investigate the incident, and to publish a statement accepting blame for the disaster on the eve of the visit. After a while the Russian Foreign Ministry sent similar recommendations to Boris Yeltsin.

There are several reasons for perplexity here. First, we might wonder: Are there any people capable of thinking for themselves left on Smolenskaya Square? Second, it should be remembered that no one has juridically proved the Soviet Union's guilt. Several versions of what happened have been circulated in the world, including one suggesting that "KAL-007" deliberately strayed off course for espionage purposes. In effect Russia's Far Eastern policy is being based on just one unproven version circulated thanks to articles in a central newspaper. One final point: Relatives of the dead have brought an action against the U.S. Government for permitting the aircraft to go into Soviet airspace. The administration is threatened with costs running into millions of dollars. But if Russia accepts the blame, the actions are invalidated and we will be the ones who have to pay. That is one more detail indicating who is defending whose interests.

Fate of U.S. Officer Downed in 1950 Probed

*PM0309111392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
29 Aug 92 Morning Edition p 7*

[Report by Valeriy Rudnev under the "IZVESTIYA Investigation" rubric: "50 Years After Tragedy Over Baltic"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA readers, the Russian Defense Ministry, "Project ARC," and Jane Reynolds-Howard, wife of the American Army lieutenant who disappeared without trace in 1950, are joining in with our newspaper's journalistic investigation.

For several months now we have been carrying out a search for traces of the American B-29 aircraft which Soviet fighters shot down with 10 crew members on

board on 6 April 1950 (IZVESTIYA Nos. 28, 97, and 99). During this time we have visited various archives and talked with specialists from the Security and Internal Affairs Ministries and the Armed Forces Main Intelligence Directorate. We have, of course, found one of the airmen who shot the Boeing down. A mechanic who heard radio conversations during the air battle... but unfortunately it has not been possible hitherto to say anything reliable about what happened to the pilots subsequently. Alas, these distant events have until now been classified as a "state secret." We are not, however, losing hope: We are acquiring more and more helpers and allies in our investigation of the B-29 incident.

First, let us talk about our search in the archives. We have been able to obtain several documents, in particular, from the Russian Security Ministry.

Extract from U.S. Embassy diplomatic note of 16 July 1956:

...The U.S. Government has information and is forced to assume that the Soviet Government has detained and is continuing to detain the following persons:

1. One or several crew members of a Privateer class aircraft of the U.S. Navy which went down in the region of the Baltic Sea 8 April 1950. Since then the U.S. Government has received a report that some or other members of this U.S. plane's crew have been held or are being held at various places of detention in the Soviet Union's far eastern region. In particular it knows and considers that at least one of the U.S. Air Force personnel... was being kept in 1950 and October 1953 in camp No. 20, which is allegedly situated near Tayshet, and at kolkhoz No. 25, approximately 54 kilometers from Tayshet, and according to information was serving a sentence for alleged espionage. According to descriptions, this American citizen had burns on the face and legs received as a result of his aircraft going down and used crutches or a stick.

We have received information from former prisoners held by the Soviet Government in Vorkuta that in September 1950 they saw in the region of Vorkuta eight American citizens who were, they assume, members of the crew of the aforementioned U.S. Navy Privateer class aircraft, and specifically that one person interned in Vorkuta in September 1950 stated that he was serving a 20-year sentence for espionage and was earlier a crew member of a downed United States aircraft... American Embassy Moscow, 16 July 1956.

Second document from KGB and USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry correspondence:

Top secret, Copy No. 2.

According to facts in the possession of the Second Main Directorate of the KGB there are no American servicemen at the present time serving sentences in camps or prisons in the Soviet Union.

As far as we know at the time of the incidents involving American aircraft which took place in 1950 and 1952 over the Baltic and Sea of Japan, the Soviet side did not capture any of these airplanes' crew members. (Shcherbak).

Maybe this is true—Robert Reynolds and his comrades perished in an air battle over the Baltic. The standpoint today of military men from the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command, however, is confusing when they answered us in the following way: "Soviet fighters did not make contact with the B-29; the American aircraft flew away in an unknown direction."

However, we still have hope of help from the military. We have just received a letter from Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev. Among other things he reported to IZVESTIYA: "At your request the Russian Federation Defense Ministry is carrying out work to clarify the circumstances in which an American B-29 aircraft and members of its crew disappeared without trace over the Baltic in 1950. Due to the events having taken place a long time ago, this work has become extremely difficult and requires a significant amount of time to be spent on it. You will be informed of the work's results."

We will look out for them.

Letters continue to come in from our readers. They contain new facts and circumstances. In 1950 I was serving in the 30th Aviation Regiment, Reserve Colonel Vladimir Morozov recalls. I can confirm: On 8 April 1950 Soviet LA-11's were scrambled from the "Palanga" airstrip in response to an alert in order to intercept an American B-29. After locating the "American" our fliers received an order from the operations center to destroy the intruder. The whole tragedy of this affair, however, lies in the fact that we downed the Boeing in a neutral zone.

An international scandal brewed, but to somehow stifle it, the Soviet information office, evidently at the behest of the USSR leadership, stated: "The intruder aircraft flew off toward the sea." Well, although we made this statement we began to search for the downed aircraft ourselves. The Baltic Fleet's military ships were mobilized in the search for traces of the "American." If you cannot rely on the Army's archives, then only the sailors who participated in this operation can inform you and the American airmen's relatives of the fate of the B-29's crew.

Sailors have also sent their reminiscences to IZVESTIYA. Viktor Shevchuk, a participant in the search for the downed Boeing in 1950, writes: "At that time I was serving on board the motor launch SK-481. It was not only seamen who were looking for the American aircraft but also divers of the Baltic, Northern, and Black Sea Fleets. The chief of the Navy Expedition for Special Underwater Operations led the operation himself. The work involved the observance of all precautions and measures of secrecy—we were not even allowed to communicate by radio, but information was passed on, as they say, by hand, using couriers. Believe me, there were grounds to be afraid. The Americans were showing an

increased interest—no less than our own—in the place the aircraft had gone down. Their ships and aircraft were also in the region of the search, but our squadron did not let them near.

"We plowed the seas for a long time. It was only after a month that the first results emerged. At first we found the American plane's wing, then several days later—part of the fuselage with the second wing. The 'ship's radio' transmitted a message that the divers had been given the task of dismantling the American plane's electrical equipment and weaponry. You see at that time the B-29 was the last word in airplane construction.

"I do not know what happened to the electronics but I myself saw them raise a small suitcase from the seabed (something between an 'overnight case,' such as were popular at the time, and a modern attache case) containing the personal effects of one of the pilots. There was a T-shirt, underpants, socks, handkerchiefs, and shaving tools in it. I saw all this when the American's 'overnight case' was drying on the deck, but the sailors from one of the salvage vessels told us (in the divers' words) that the corpses of the fliers were discovered in the aircraft's cabin. As to how many of them there were, who they were, and whether they were raised from the seabed, I do not know.

"Now something about the parachutists who allegedly bailed out of the burning Boeing. If any of them remained alive, only our naval border guards could have picked up those who survived (if only one of them would respond to your articles!) When the border was violated, they were the first to get to the scene of the incident, and only later did they call us. It is not possible that the border guards did not search the area in which the plane came down. All the more so as the region of Liepaja was monitored particularly carefully due to the large number of violations of the sea border. It was an hour's journey for the launches to the place the B-29 came down.

"I also call on the divers who were on the seabed in the area in which the plane went down to respond to the IZVESTIYA investigation. You can, of course, study the documents (they certainly contain all information about the B-29 being raised from the seabed, including that about the fatalities aboard the American aircraft) in the archive of the Main Naval Staff. The only thing is, will they allow you to rummage about in official secrets?" This is how former Petty Officer 2d Class Viktor Shevchuk concluded his letter.

It is not only eyewitnesses who are helping us. Activists from "Project ARC" have passed on their information to IZVESTIYA. This joint Russo-American public organization, apart from investigating Raul Wallenberg's case, is involved in the search for lost American servicemen. In particular, according to information from "Project ARC," the American secret services possess information about the B-29 being raised from the bottom of the Baltic, and even have photographs recording this moment. Moreover, the co-directors of "Project ARC"

Susan Messinay and Boris Yuzhin handed over to us a computer-generated portrait of Robert Reynolds as he would look today. They consider that this portrait will help in the search for the American airman.

Robert's wife, Jane Reynolds-Howard, also believes that her husband is alive. At the invitation of IZVESTIYA, she came to Moscow together with her daughter Caroline. She brought with her a letter from American astronaut Alan Shepard (he studied with Robert, flew with him, and was at his comrade's wedding to Jane) to Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Jane Reynolds-Howard considers: The Russian authorities are more open today in the question of the American servicemen who disappeared without trace than the U.S. authorities. She therefore hopes that the meetings in Russia will not only help her to find out the truth about her husband and his crew mates, but also about the fate of other Americans who have disappeared in the USSR.

"I want to cure people of the feeling of guilt about our past," Jane Reynolds-Howard stated. "We should tell each other the truth, however bitter it is. If Robert is dead, show me his grave. If he is alive, give me and his daughter the opportunity of meeting with him."

Diplomatic Appointments, Retirements Announced

PM0309143392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 3 Sep 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Official Chronicle"]

[Text] By decrees of the Russian Federation president:

Eduard Stepanovich Shevchenko has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the People's Republic of Bangladesh;

Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Trofimov has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Estonian Republic;

Boris Grigoryevich Mayorskiy has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Kenya and ex officio permanent representative of the Russian Federation to international organizations in Nairobi;

Valeriy Vartanovich Nazarov has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Union of Burma;

Vladimir Gerasimovich Filatov has been relieved of duties as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Chad in connection with his retirement on pension;

Vitaliy Konstantinovich Zhuravlev has been relieved of duties as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Benin in connection with his transfer to other work;

Vadim Ivanovich Shabalin has been relieved of duties as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Union of Burma in connection with his retirement on pension.

Government Decisions on International Matters

PM0309160992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 3 Sep 92 First Edition p 7

[Unattributed report under the "Official" rubric: "Agreements, Contracts, Decisions..."]

[Text] The Russian Government has approved the drafts of all government agreements with Ukraine on deliveries of Russian natural gas and the transit of gas across the republic's territory. Under the document Russia has pledged to supply Ukraine with 69.8 billion cubic meters of gas this year and to supply 3.625 billion cubic meters for consumers in Moldova. For its part Kiev will ensure the transit of 98.9 billion cubic meters of gas that is Russian Federation property and is intended for export to third countries. Rubles have been chosen as the unit for mutual settlements. If commitments for export deliveries of gas are not met through Ukraine's fault (provided that they have been met by the Russian Federation), it is to fully reimburse Russia for the amount of the losses in freely convertible currency. The "Gazprom" and "Ukrgazprom" concerns will be instructed to conclude economic contracts arising from this agreement. In view of the need to switch gradually to settlements at world prices in the sale and transit of gas, the countries intend to pursue a coordinated policy in the sphere of tariffs for natural gas and transport services in order to ensure mutually advantageous economic opportunities.

A Russian Government ordinance has laid down terms of payment, benefits and privileges, and social guarantees for persons forming part of the joint forces to establish peace and maintain law and order in the Dniester region, military observers, members of the united control commission, and expert groups. They are also extended to leaders of joint forces in the Georgian-Ossetian conflict zone.

A government resolution has instructed the Russian Foreign Ministry to hold talks with Czecho-Slovakia on questions of visa-free travel by citizens. The draft agreement prepared on this subject provides that Russian citizens can enter the Czecho-Slovak Republic's territory, and citizens of the latter can enter Russian territory, without visas on valid national passports and remain there for up to 90 days. Citizens traveling from our country to the Czecho-Slovak Federal Republic and vice versa on official business, and also members of their families, do not require a visa for the whole period of their accreditation.

The Russian Federation Government has approved a draft agreement with the Lithuanian Government on the transit of Russian troops withdrawn from the FRG, Poland, and military camps on Lithuanian territory.

A government resolution instructs the Russian Foreign Ministry to hold talks with the Chinese side on concluding an agreement with the PRC Government on

cultural and scientific cooperation in a wide range of spheres. It is assumed that this could replace the 1956 cooperation agreement between the USSR and China.

Burbulis Discusses Prospects for Development

OW0409020792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1631 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Interview with First Deputy Prime Minister Gennadiy Burbulis by Vyacheslav Terekhov; place and date not given; from "Problems & Opinions"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Correspondent: Apparently, we are in for a very "hot" autumn. The political opponents of the government and of the reforms are openly calling for "toppling" the president. They are resolved to attempt their last and decisive battle. What do you think in this regard?

Burbulis: I think that it's an utter adventure. Our political opponents, certainly, are overly presumptuous as regards their authority to postulate their creed on behalf of the Russian citizens or the population of Russia. In reality, there is a great distance between the actual situation and the sentiments of the Russians who, in my opinion, ultimately defy any possibility to return to the past.

What we have attained is that at present the Russians are mainly preoccupied with the pragmatic issues of the day. They are organizing themselves, mobilizing all of their resources—family, spiritual, and professional—for survival. This constitutes their policy and, I would say, our achievement.

As regards the political predilections of those who are joining various unions, movements and other structures, they appear to be of transitional nature and pose no threat to us.

We only fear the abatement of the momentum of the reform, weakening of the mobilizing political determination, and the absence of a stable democratically rational structure which, if need be, will back the president and provide support to the government. This could also help revive the ground rule that the democrats are unified in the situation when we hear so many speculations that the democrats have "crumbled" and they no longer depend on a general platform.

Q: It sounds fairly right.

A: In this regard, I have an absolutely impeccable reasoning. Most of the people don't realize that the period of a democratic confrontation to the totalitarian and communist system has come to an end and resigned from the historical scene. That period required mass manifestations and single-time political actions, such as elections.

Today, we should assume upon ourselves the responsibility for the rigors of the reforms and for a long-term program of Russian transformations which ultimately excludes any leadership from without. What we need to do now is carry out our daily, non-advertisement chores—first and foremost, beginning with ourselves. That's what we have on the agenda of the so-called Russian Democratic Movement.

Q: Do you think the political parties will survive at the next stage?

A: I am convinced that all party-guided political movements have exhausted their resources in the process of reforms. Essentially, the parties have devalued themselves. Even in the countries which seem to preserve confrontations provoked by the parties, in reality, we are dealing with a transformation of party structures into professional establishments which capitalize on the party structures for psychologically inspiring their electors in order that the latter could take the outlook they need.

We shouldn't back the illusion that a civic society will materialize only on the basis of stable and socially secured parties. Presently, the social basis for the party movement has been exhausted. Incidentally, it has exhausted itself by the fact that we are all looking for a new political vernacular.

All this proves my old idea-time that Russian reforms constitute not only the cause of the Russian people but their longing, however articulate, for reforms of a worldwide nature. Their perceptions of the other states are subject to changing—this is ineluctable. They will change their mind about the so-called external policies pursued by those states, as well as about the attributes of the state policy.

The scope of their notions about national interests will also undoubtedly undergo essential changes. What will surely remain unchanged are man's basic values, realized in an original national form which serves to authenticate these values.

Boris Yeltsin's thesis about permeability of state borders is unavoidable as an essential principle of existence of states. Eventually, all the exertions of the European Community and those of the CIS will, in the long run, be realized thereby.

Finally, the economy. In assuming an international nature and trends for cooperation for the sake of efficient, optimal, and purposeful existence it will be capable of overcoming any crises. That's how I view our future.

Q: In his recent interview, Yegor Gaydar said that he is viewing himself as a political kamikaze. In this connection, what is your assessment of the chances in this capacity of premiers Volskiy, Vladislavlev, or Shcherbakov?

A: It's just a lot of unfounded bluff? [punctuation as received]

Q: Do you think Yegor Gaydar will be pursuing a rigid line with respect to the financial stabilization in Russia he has proclaimed?

A: I believe, we have suffered enough to deserve a full-scale liberal-conservative platform of the Russian reforms. I anticipate it in the near future, in terms of days or months, first and foremost, on a professional rather than political basis.

It would be requisite to unite those who are capable of effecting the Russian transformations. These should be physicians, engineers, military servicemen, and politicians of small and high standing. They have already made their internal choice: Russia will succeed in effecting its reforms provided it secures economic freedoms for its citizens. They have realized that the state ought to protect their citizens from the viewpoint of the law and give up its hypocritical and fraudulent mission to adjust their relations on the basis of social justice.

We need a normal, liberal-conservative manifesto which would explain that the reforms is something other than a proverbial carrot which various structures and forces resorted to in order to attract to themselves the attention of the majority of the population. This appears to be our perspective and the essence of the Russian future, and it contains, barring all the populist dispositions, certain basic values.

The sooner and more precisely a definite part of society recognizes these values and accepts them as their own, the sooner will come the change in the Russian mentality.

In my opinion, its essence lies in the fact that the people just don't want to return to the past. They want to live better than they do, but few of them realize what they need to accomplish in order to attain this. The banal, at the same time, essential conclusion, is that it would be impossible to improve their living standards without becoming free persons, their personal freedom presupposing a new in principle preparedness and ability to live.

Q: In this regard, what is your opinion of the changes that have taken place three months ago in the vice president's team? Have new professionals or politicians been enrolled?

A: I believe that policy is largely pursued in the manner of "professional corrections". If the government structures have recruited the persons capable of realizing the reforms better than their predecessors, or if they regard, say, upholding of the Russian statehood, as their sacred duty, I would only welcome such developments.

As of present, the government has an "internal problem" of its own: it needs to secure "moral and professional unity in macro reforms and branch reforms. We need to set up a reliable industrial policy. [no end quotation mark as received]

At last, we have to say to one another that we have inherited a unique legacy from the preceding totalitarian regime, and we have no right to ignore it—I am talking about our national technological basis. Admittedly, it is based on military priorities. However, the resources and the national wealth which was invested into it cannot be destroyed just for the purpose of changing overnight the country's economic system.

We have to admit that the government needs a dependable regional policy, it needs a strong Russian state

which would provide for and maximally stimulate full-fledged independence of Russia's regions and territories.

In my opinion, there can be only two priorities today: the industrial policy or society's basic industrial perspective, and the regional policy. Then we will certainly succeed.

Gaydar: \$2 Billion of Foreign Debt To Be Paid

OW0309182892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1748 GMT 3 Sep 92

[From the "Headline News" section of "Trade & Investment"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia and other CIS countries are to repay \$9.8bn [billion] of former Soviet debts in 1992. As of July 27, Russia had paid out approximately \$1bn. Russia cannot repay more than \$2bn this year, said Mr Yegor Gaydar in an interview with INTERFAX.

Asked whether, given the ruble's sharp slide against the dollar, the government will impose restrictions on the activities of foreign investors willing to take part in privatizations in Russia, Mr Gaydar replied in the negative.

Reports of Radioactive Waste Dumping Denied

LD0309181692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1137 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vasilii Belousov]

[Text] Murmansk September 3 TASS—The local newspaper "SOVETSKIY MURMANSK" today denied reports by the Norwegian press that the ship "Serebryanka", servicing Russian atomic-propelled vessels, has left Murmansk for Novaya Zemlya to dump liquid radioactive wastes there.

"The "Serebryanka" has, indeed, left for Novaya Zemlya, but for quite another purpose: It will deliver equipment to a geological prospecting expedition, which is conducting surveys to site there an enterprise for burying radioactive wastes, accumulated in Murmansk and Archangel regions," the newspaper says. "As to liquid wastes from nuclear-powered icebreakers of the local shipping administration, their dumping into the sea was stopped back in 1986."

The correctness of the Murmansk newspaper's report was confirmed to ITAR-TASS by officials of the local authorities.

Ukrainian Rail Strikes Affect Russian Trains

LD0309174292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1321 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Din Inamov]

[Text] Moscow September 3 TASS—A critical situation has developed on Russian railways in recent hours. Ukrainian railwaymen have gone on strike and ceased

receiving inbound trains from Russia, beginning from the very first railway juncture—the Khutor Mikhailovskiy station on the border with Russia, Dmitriy Karetnikov, deputy head of the main railway traffic department of the Russian Ministry of Railways, told ITAR-TASS.

Russian counterparts have had to bring all Ukraine-bound railway traffic in the republic to a standstill—beginning from the Urals. Forty trains have been stranded on the Bryansk railway branch alone, Karetnikov said.

As for passenger trains, they are far behind the schedule because they have to go via the Belarusian railway, Karetnikov said.

Explosives Destined for War Zone Intercepted

PM0309154792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Sep 92

[Report by V. Foshenko and V. Shishkin in Voronezh; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] This plane was to take on a shipment at Voronezh and continue on its journey. The documents accompanying the shipment read: Hunting gear—weight 40 tonnes. The sender of the shipment was a Kazan city enterprise. Via several commercial structures, the receiver was established as the Ikar company. A check revealed that the 541 crates contained gun powder and high-explosive fragmentation incendiary shells for aircraft guns. It emerged that this whole shipment was originally destined for Moscow to be investigated there. In reality it was en route for the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict zone. Why it turned up in Voronezh, and many other questions, are currently being investigated.

It only remains to be added that this deal was thwarted in time by staffers of the Voronezh Oblast Administration of the Russian Federation Ministry of Security and by military counterintelligence. [Video shows aircraft and uniformed officials examining crates containing powder and shells]

Defense Industry's Status, Future Eyed

PM0309130192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Aug 92 pp 1, 2

[Interview with G.G. Yanpolskiy, general director of the Ministry of Industry Defense Industry Department, by Aleksandr Vorobyev under the "Today's Interlocutor" rubric; place and date not given: "Arms for a Nameless Kingdom"—passages in boldface are editorial office narrative]

[Text] Visiting Card: Gennadiy Georgiyevich Yanpolskiy General director of the Russian Ministry of Industry Defense Industry Department. He was born in 1939. Following graduation from technical school in Vladimir

Oblast's city of Kovrov, he started his working life in defense industry enterprises. He has worked as fitter, electrician, foreman, shop chief, chief engineer, chief of the USSR Ministry of the Defense Industry Main Technical Administration, and was appointed leader of the sector last December. The Defense Industry Department is staffed by just over 130 employees and replaces the formerly famous Ministry of the Defense Industry. This department started work in January this year. Its enterprises and organizations employ about 1 million people.

[Vorobyev] Gennadiy Georgiyevich, to begin with we would like to find out what articles are manufactured by your department, or rather by its enterprises. For a long time now the production and deliveries of arms and military equipment abroad has been kept a special secret. And even now very few people know who is selling how much at what price and to whom abroad, and how much is being produced for Russia, for example.

[Yanpolskiy] Our sector specializes in the creation [sozdaniye] and production of armored hardware, missile and artillery armaments, and optical and electronic systems and instruments, as well as the manufacture of equipment for the textile and light industries, individual articles for the agro-industrial complex, medical equipment, and scientific mensuration instruments. The sector's output also includes motor scooters, motorcycles, sports and hunting weapons, still photography cameras, binoculars, tractors, railcars, automobiles, washing machines, refrigerators, and so on—with more than 80 percent of these articles designed for civilian purposes.

[Vorobyev] Excuse me, Gennadiy Georgiyevich, but let us be frank: This high percentage is not an achievement but the reverse... the result of wholesale conversion.

[Yanpolskiy] Let me be more specific: We are talking not of wholesale conversion but of wholesale cutback of orders for arms and military equipment. Therefore, the 80 percent is just the consequence of the prevailing political and economic situation. Even though, by tradition, our enterprises did engage in the production of civilian output in the past. Meanwhile, our starting positions would appear quite sound: The defense industry has accumulated experience in high technologies, it has built up a major industrial potential, and we have powerful scientific cadres at our disposal.

[Vorobyev] So what are the problems?

[Yanpolskiy] Raising the overall standards of commercial activities. This means reducing production costs to a minimum and assimilating the latest science-intensive production processes along priority avenues. This in turn means technologically flexible production processes, where everything is important: The quality of production and the speed with which we take on and implement the demands of the consumer—the client from, say, a nameless state which places orders for arms and military equipment. Why the secrecy? I would not like to reveal our precontract negotiations. We have clients from Asia and even Europe placing orders with us.

BRIEFLY FOR THE RECORD. The department's enterprises are undergoing structural restructuring associated with the restoration of science and production ties and the taking on of the manufacture of output previously made in the former USSR republics. The problems the sector faces include ensuring an end to the decline of output, stabilizing the financial situation, maintaining the military, scientific, and technical potential, while simultaneously reducing staffing levels (over an 18-month period the number of enterprise and organization workers has been reduced by more than 73,000). During the first half of 1992 the average monthly wage per worker in the department's enterprises was 2,300 rubles.

[Yanpolskiy] One of the ways out of the prevailing tough situation is to actively develop the sector's export potential and the foreign economic military-technical cooperation by establishing long-term, direct, and targeted ties with clients and firms abroad.

We already have some experience in this work. Now, jointly with our partners abroad, we are taking steps to integrate ourselves in the world economy through international division of labor. Integration will help ensure our output's competitiveness. And in the long run it will reduce the costs of production.

[Vorobyev] Gennadiy Georgiyevich, you mentioned the defense industry's foreign economic activities, but until quite recently that was the prerogative of the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. To what extent can your department participate in the arms trade?

[Yanpolskiy] The sale of arms and military technology abroad is the main export element in the activity of the department's enterprises. The department's export of civilian output abroad in 1991 accounted for about 10.5 percent of our total volume. Arms were transferred mainly to developing countries. Moreover, all the talks were conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations' trade representatives. Since the beginning of this year, the sector's enterprises acquired for the first time an opportunity to expand this export.

The point is that the government ratified the statute of the Interdepartmental Commission for the Russian Federation's Military-Technical Cooperation with Foreign Countries. The enterprises were given broader opportunities to seek foreign partners, while some of them even received permission from the Russian Government to conclude contracts for the export of their own output.

At the same time, the leading role of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations has been retained (and this is perfectly understandable), and the main exporters of military equipment and arms—foreign economic associations under that ministry, formed on the basis of the former Main Engineering Administration and Main Technical Administration—are still operating.

The latter determine the volume of export deliveries. Unfortunately, however, this is often done along monopoly lines...

What is the result of this activity? According to the data on exported military output, as declared by the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, actual sales in 1991 amounted to about 30 percent of the annual order, and to just 7.2 percent of it during the first half of 1992.

What happens is that the foreign trade organizations under the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations use government credits to order arms and military equipment, and afterwards simply leave the output in storage. The result is that a sizeable quantity of output is stockpiled, while producing enterprises turn into arms dumps. Payment for these orders is not prompt, thus further aggravating the enterprises' critical financial situation and leading to exacerbation of the social situation in labor collectives, with workers receiving their May wages in July, for example.

[Vorobyev] Does this mean that there is no longer any demand for arms and military equipment? And yet, in these critical times, the export of arms must provide quite solid support for our state...

[Yanpolskiy] Why is there such a complex situation prevailing in the military market?

The reasons are universally known: First, the disarmament process launched by the end of confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. On the other hand, standard army equipment has been "dumped" in quite large quantities by both East and West European countries. The withdrawing Soviet forces have also been a contributing factor, and this has also narrowed our opportunities for arms sales. The Libyan and Iraqi markets have been lost. The situation has also been considerably affected by the Persian Gulf war. Its outcome demonstrated that the one with science-intensive and modern equipment will gain victory and, moreover, victory will be determined not by the quantity but by the quality of arms. Consequently, representatives of a number of developing countries have raised the standards of their requirements.

To put it briefly, the level of trade in standard military output has declined considerably. This has also been demonstrated by the work experience of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations trade representatives. In the last few years the volume of sales has been curtailed and reduced by a factor of 1.5-2.

This is why, in our view, the developers and producers of arms—the chief general designer—must now become one of the most active mandatory participants in all aspects of foreign economic activity. It is they who determine the standards of the equipment supplied and the possibility of bringing the article in line with the specific consumer's requirements. They must participate in talks at all stages. The fact that developers and

producers today are virtually excluded from the determination of contract conditions and schedules reduces the sales potential and prevents the establishment of long-term foreign economic ties. Our trade middlemen, in the form of associations under the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, are still conducting their operations in isolation from the developer and producer. As a rule, everything boils down to one-shot trade deals, which leaves very little for the producer. We need long-term prospects. We offer to work directly with the client, anticipating his demands.

[Vorobyev] Gennadiy Georgiyevich, your replies make it clear that there is a pressing need to change a whole series of directions in foreign economic operations on the export of arms and military equipment. Is this correct?

[Yanpolskiy] Yes. This is obvious. The essence of the changes boils down to this. It is my belief that states sharing long borders with us, having large armed forces, or lacking a democratic regime cannot be perceived as Russia's priority partners in military-technical cooperation.

It is also perfectly obvious that Russia's Commission for Military-Technical Cooperation and Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations must exercise state monitoring and a state monopoly, they must implement the state policy in questions concerning the export of military equipment. But these organizations cannot enjoy a monopoly on middleman activities.

Third, current experience indicates that some foreign partners, when ordering the development of a prototype within a set time limit, would like to work directly with us. Such an opportunity must be made available to the manufacturers, developers, and suppliers.

We also believe that it is vitally necessary to supplement the system of military-technical cooperation by setting up under the Russian Federation Ministry of Industry or the Defense Industry Department a joint-stock corporation on the basis of existing foreign economic associations and the enterprises' foreign trade missions.

General Staff Chief on Role of Peace Forces

PM0309133792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
2 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by Viktor Litovkin on interview with Colonel General Viktor Dubynin, chief of General Staff and first deputy defense minister; place and date not given: "Peacemaking Forces Are Costing Us an Arm and a Leg. But Ending Fratricidal Wars Is Worth More Than Any Money, Russian Armed Forces Chief of General Staff Believes"]

[Text] It will soon be six months since a new category—peacemaking forces—was established in the Russian Army. Our military observer talked with Colonel General Viktor Dubynin, chief of General Staff and Russian first deputy defense minister.

We have little or no experience with using peacemaking forces, the general said, but in some places they have already played a part in halting bloody conflicts.

Russia currently has such forces in Yugoslavia (an airborne assault battalion of 900 men), in South Ossetia (a reinforced airborne assault regiment of 950 men), and in the Dniester Region (one assault regiment and three motorized rifle battalions from the Volga and Leningrad Military Districts, comprising 2,750 men).

As a result of an agreement among the CIS heads of state a motorized rifle division is training in the Volga Military District to perform peacemaking functions. It comprises three regiments of a new table of organization structure. They are armed only with light small arms and are deployed in armored personnel carriers and trucks. They will not have artillery, tanks, or antiaircraft facilities.

According to the chief of the General Staff, small subunits capable of taking independent action to separate the warring sides, monitor the situation in their area, and, if necessary, quell small clashes will form the basis of the peacemaking forces. These subunits will possess intelligence, communications, engineering, and mine-clearing facilities.

The military contingent is selected on a strictly voluntary basis. The servicemen will be classed as war participants. The soldiers, warrant officers, and officers will receive 8,000-12,000 rubles [R] per month, linked to the rate of inflation, on top of their pay. Each day of service will count as two.

The Russian General Staff handles the formation, training, and supply of the peacemaking forces and supervises service organization. General Dubynin reckons that there have to be special principles governing the manning and training of the peacemaking forces. The "blue helmets" will not only have to tackle combat tasks, but will also have to be diplomats and lawyers, strictly perform their duties connected with separating the warring sides, and, at the same time, will be able to resist provocations and avoid becoming involved in a shooting match.

It does not always happen that way. Two Russian troops have already been killed and 14 wounded by bandits in South Ossetia and one has been killed and seven wounded in the Dniester Region. People are being killed not only in firefights, but also during mine clearance, although attacks on Russians are increasing, the general said. Particularly in the Bendery area, where certain people are regularly trying to wreck the peace settlement process.

According to Dubynin, it is not possible at the moment to establish who, what forces, are firing on our troops, whether it is the Moldovan or Dniester Region side. But that should not be the military's concern. The local authorities are supposed to deal with these problems.

The Russian chief of the General Staff believes that the peacemaking forces will only be effective if the second and third stages begin immediately after the first stage—halting the bloody conflict and separating the warring sides. The second and third stages involve defining the political and juridical status of the particular territory, establishing a legal authority on it, carrying out democratic and economic transformations, and creating conditions for a peaceful and quiet life for the citizens.

But these stages are not working at the moment, unfortunately, according to Dubynin. The delayed political solution of the problem can only lead to an exacerbation of the situation, and then the peacemaking forces will be caught in the crossfire, their role will be reduced to naught, and the idea of using them will be discredited.

There is another problem that concerns General Dubynin. The fact that the peacemaking forces are made up almost entirely of Russian battalions. The Russian Federation and its Defense Ministry have to bear a very large financial burden. It costs R2.2 million and \$12,000 to keep the "blue helmets" in South Ossetia, the Dniester Region, and Yugoslavia for one day, not counting the cost of transportation, fuel, food, and combat equipment and property depreciation. As of 1 September Russia had already spent R190 million and \$730,000. Despite all the accords, no other country in the Commonwealth aside from our state, including those where the peacemaking forces are situated, has paid a penny of this. But there are political questions as well.

Members of nationalist currents and parties in both Moldova and Georgia are accusing Russia of continuing to conduct a predatory imperial policy using the peacemaking forces. The same criticism, but at an everyday level, is heard by Russian troops disarming bandit formations and halting bloody clashes.

General Dubynin reckons that the peacemaking forces must be joint forces in actuality rather than just in words and be comprised of representatives of all states in the Commonwealth. And not only them. You could invite Poland, Bulgaria, or Finland, for example, to send forces. Incidentally, these countries, Viktor Dubynin said, as well as Ukraine and Kazakhstan, have expressed an interest in joining the peacemaking forces that are being sent to the Dniester Region, but Moldova did not agree to this step.

"The presence of Finns, Bulgarians, and Poles in Moldova would have been a hard currency expense," I said, "and the republic is not exactly flush with that."

"Maybe so," the general agreed, "but they do not have to be companies or battalions—there are enough Russian soldiers. What you need, for example, is military representatives. Then the process of disengagement and stabilization of the situation would be quicker, more effective, and more logical."

Where are peacemaking forces expected to be used in the immediate future?

The next destination will be Tajikistan, General Dubynin believes. According to him, the republic leadership there and the opposing sides have already reached agreement that the bloodshed can only be halted by using CIS "blue helmets." After all the legal formalities have been agreed and the formation and training of the motorized rifle regiments have been completed, one of them may be sent to Central Asia.

Abkhazia is another trouble spot. A Gyandzha division airborne assault regiment is there at the moment. Its subunits are guarding Russian Army facilities—airfields, bases, ports, anti-aircraft missile batteries, radar stations, and military camps. In principle, this regiment, after the requisite reinforcement, the Russian first deputy defense minister said, could also tackle peacemaking tasks. But that would require a political decision.

If the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan show goodwill and an agreement is reached on the disengagement of the warring sides in Nagorno-Karabakh, Russian peacemaking forces, together with military formations from other states, could be sent to stabilize the situation in this region, which has been in flames for years. But, again, it is a matter for the politicians.

An airborne assault battalion is preparing to replace the Russian "blue helmets" in Yugoslavia. Ships have also undergone training in the Black Sea and Pacific Fleets for participation in ensuring safe navigation in the Persian Gulf.

Why from two fleets, when the Persian Gulf is closer to the Black Sea than to Vladivostok?

This was done, the general said, in case representatives of Ukraine and Russia failed to agree on all aspects of the allocation of a ship from the Black Sea Fleet. Difficulties arose over the formation of the crew, the choice of official symbols—what flag it would fly—and who would pay for passage through the Suez Canal... And that is \$280,000, no less.

Unfortunately, no agreement was reached, so the patrol ship Admiral Vinogradov and the tanker Boris Butoma will go to the Persian Gulf from the Pacific Fleet.

Nonetheless, Colonel General Dubynin said, all the problems are solvable as long as there is goodwill and agreement. And although the peacemaking activities bring the Russian Army neither financial nor economic dividends, he said in conclusion, our country, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council and a great power, is prepared to carry out its duty to the world community. Because you cannot put a price on peace and tranquillity.

Deputy Commander on State of Rocket Forces

*PM0409103192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 4 Sep 92 pp 1, 2*

[Interview with Colonel General Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Ryazhskikh, deputy commander in chief of the

Strategic Rocket Forces for armaments, by Major Aleksandr Dolinin under the rubric "Interlocutor of the Day"; place and date not given: "Russia Needs Nuclear Missile Weapons and Can Perfectly Well Afford Them"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] He was born in 1931. He is deputy commander in chief of the Strategic Rocket Forces for armaments and a member of the Strategic Rocket Forces Military Council. He is a doctor of military sciences and candidate of technical sciences. He took part in the development of the first Soviet rockets. He is an experimental engineer. He took part in the launch of the first artificial Earth satellite and of the lunar probes. He worked for many years with S.P. Korolev, V.N. Chelomey, N.A. Pilyugin, M.K. Yangel, and V.P. Barmin.

[Dolinin] It has now been proved that it is impossible in the modern world to resolve the problems of a state's national security without an army with powerful weapons. Therefore priority attention is being paid to strategic forces groupings and to their foundation—the Strategic Rocket Forces—in forming the Russian Army. But what is the technical condition of the forces today? Given the country's present economic position, have they not lost their former might, and will their continued maintenance and development not be a heavy burden on the people?

[Ryazhskikh] I should stress right away that, compared with other branches of the Armed Forces, the Rocket Forces are not only the smallest in terms of number of personnel but also, surprising though it may seem, the cheapest. Few people know that only 7-9 percent of the funds appropriated for defense are earmarked for them.

The initial expenditure on setting up missile complexes is considerable, of course. But the missile men are very careful with their equipment and arms. Largely thanks to this, the operational life of complexes is considerably extended. Moreover, the maintenance of missiles in a combat-ready state is an automatic process. All this to a great extent recoups the expenditure.

[Dolinin] In that case, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, it is reasonable to ask whether the Strategic Rocket Forces can have a high level of technical equipment when the funds allocated to them are so modest?

[Ryazhskikh] I can say without exaggeration: There were practically no tasks beyond the capability of our missile industry. The most complex models of equipment were developed and placed in series production on time, as a rule.

In terms of basic combat and operational performance characteristics, our arms are not inferior to the corresponding foreign models. Some indicators are higher abroad, and some are higher here. In general, there is in practice balance. Incidentally, that was also the conclusion drawn by Russian President B.N. Yeltsin after his recent visit to a missile test range in Mirnyy.

I will also cite some illustrations of the quality and reliability of our missile equipment. Take the RS-10 (SS-11) missile complex, which is to be replaced in the very near future. It has been on combat alert duty for around two and a half times its originally prescribed lifetime, but it still retains its combat and operational performance characteristics.

As is well known, 72 RSD-10 (SS-20) missiles were destroyed by the launch method during implementation of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. They all were launched precisely on time and their nose sections hit the calculated target points.

That is not all. In several dozen planned launches of the latest-generation RS-12M (SS-25) missiles there have been no deviations at all in prelaunch preparations or in flight. I think this is a convincing testimonial to the quality and reliability of our missiles and in general to the standard of the missile industry.

[Dolinin] But, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, doubts are arising whether the missile industry will stop in its development given today's "indiscriminate" conversion?

[Ryazhskikh] That danger does exist. Processes that may get out of control have already begun at a number of plants and design bureaus. The exodus of skilled personnel has increased sevenfold. And it is the most highly skilled professionals who are leaving.

The growth rate in the level of technical equipment at enterprises has fallen by 20-30 percent. Given this dangerous trend, our plants will be unable to take on board new technological processes in arms and equipment production.

Coproduction arrangements are being wrecked. Taking Ukrainian plants into account, the loss of suppliers is reaching 40 percent or even more. Design bureaus and research institutes do not have the funds to develop experimental facilities.

[Dolinin] So unless appropriate measures are taken, the missile industry's potential may fall below the permissible "danger mark"? What will be the quality of weaponry in 10 or 15 years' time, say?

[Ryazhskikh] Each new generation of weapons must have approximately a 50-100 percent improvement in combat and operational performance characteristics. It is impossible to achieve this without scientific and technical groundwork, a high level of technical equipment at enterprises, and modern experimental and research facilities. We are already beginning to lag behind in solving many problems.

[Dolinin] What is the solution?

[Ryazhskikh] Within the limits of my competence, I can express my personal opinion on how to alleviate the negative trends in military industry. Clearly, we in the Armed Forces must first of all ensure that the defense

industry has stable, guaranteed orders. Plant directors and chief designers must be confident of military customers as reliable partners capable of financing the development and creation of the armaments the state needs.

It is important to preserve the backbone of state defense enterprises, to give them economic incentives, and to lessen the pressure of high taxation. At all costs we must preserve our intellectual potential, even if it means state subsidies.

Conversion, which was planned on the scale of a state that no longer exists, must be geared to Russia and must have a clear, scientifically-substantiated character.

The forward planning of experimental design work and series production must be improved. It takes between five and seven years to create a modern missile complex, or even longer if you count the groundwork, so well thought-out long-term planning is essential. U.S. experience shows that over there, after they have drawn up a list of the most important long-term developments, they bolster them with dozens of projects, set up long-term cooperation, and systematically resolve the set tasks.

[Dolinin] In the hope that one day at long last everything will take shape, how do you see the purpose of Russia's nuclear missile shield?

[Ryazhskikh] Nuclear missile weapons, and we should not close our eyes to this, are a really reliable means of ensuring global stability in the foreseeable future. Not only political and military stability, but also economic stability. Irrespective of whether the states that possess them are in opposition in any sphere.

Though the army is commonly seen as guns and tanks, the basis of this army called upon to safeguard the right of Russia's peoples always to control their present and future themselves is in fact a military-political means of ensuring global stability. It is those means that the Strategic Rocket Forces have. The whole point of the Rocket Forces' existence lies in not using them, but in preventing global conflict under any circumstances.

Aside from their exceptional, unique importance for Russia's guaranteed sovereignty and defense structure, nuclear missile weapons are also necessary because they are weapons that we can perfectly well afford. If you make an integrated assessment on the basis of the "defense effect-cost" criterion taking the costs of creating them into account, they are the most economical and cheapest weapons. And it is important that they be of a level that is not inferior to foreign models.

Report on Typhoon-Class Nuclear Submarines

OW0309071792 Tokyo TBS Television Network
in Japanese 0900 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Editorial Report] Tokyo TBS Television Network in Japanese at 0900 GMT on 30 August begins its "Special Report" program on the visit by TBS "special reports

desk" newscaster Seiichi Kanise to a Typhoon-class submarine. The program begins with a video of U.S. President George Bush announcing the U.S.-Russia agreement on reducing strategic nuclear weapons, and brief shots of Russian troops training, as well as the narrator describing the role of Russia's nuclear-powered submarines in the post-cold war period.

TBS newscaster Kanise, pointing to a Kilo-class nuclear-powered submarine anchored at the port of the Russian Pacific Fleet, says reporters can approach a submarine but without cameras. Video then cuts to show a distant view of Typhoon-class submarines docked at an unidentified naval port, and newscaster Kanise walking around a Typhoon-class sub.

Video shows newscasters Naoya Ryoji and Kunio Ogawa in the TBS studio. Ryoji makes opening remarks, and Ogawa introduces newscaster Seiichi Kanise, who led the TBS film crew. Speaking at the studio, Kanise stresses that Russia still maintains the combat capability of its nuclear-powered submarines despite the end of the cold war, saying it took about six months to complete filming.

Video cuts to show people celebrating the first naval day in St. Petersburg and scenes of a ceremony on the warship Aurora. At the ceremony, the flag of the former Soviet Union was replaced with the naval flag of Imperial Russia.

Video then shows a distant view of the Russian Pacific Fleet shot from a helicopter, with the narrator stating the documentary begins with a report on the Russian Pacific Fleet in Vladivostok. Video cuts to show Kanise meeting with Lieutenant General Andrey Nikorayvich of the Russian Pacific Fleet Submarine Brigade, exchanging greetings in front of the gate through an unidentified interpreter. Video shows three submarines at anchor (defined by video caption as Foxtrot-class), as well as Kanise touching torpedoes placed on the pier. Kanise points to Russia's newest diesel-powered submarine (defined by video caption as Kilo-class) at anchor, and asks Lieutenant-General Nikorayvich for permission to get closer. Although Kanise's request was rejected at first, the film crew was eventually allowed to go aboard the Kilo with their camera. Video then shows Kanise, an interpreter, and Lieutenant-General Nikorayvich standing on the deck of the Kilo. Kanise points out sound-absorbing rubber which covers the entire deck. Video then shows inside the submarine, including the control room and torpedo tubes.

Video cuts to show a distant view of two Kilo-class submarines at anchor.

Video then shows the film crew heading toward Komsomolsk on the near reaches of the Amur River. An unidentified narrator says that "the largest shipyard in the Russian Far East is located in this town, and nuclear-powered submarines used to be built here." At the shipyard office the manager confirms to Kanise that nuclear-powered submarines used to be and still are built there.

Then the narrator adds: "The Komsomolsk shipyard is the second oldest former Soviet shipyard designed to build nuclear-powered submarines. Since the first of these submarines was put into commission in 1960, more than 20 have been built. However, due to drastic disarmament and cutbacks in military spending over the past few years, the one being built now will be the last."

Video cuts to show Kanise looking around the shipyard. He finds a hatch used on submarines and a large propeller screw which is corrugated to lessen the submarine's noise; he asks if the screw is to be used on a submarine. The shipyard manager denies it, saying the screw is owned by the Far East Public Vessel Corporation and is temporarily being kept at the shipyard.

Video then cuts to show the crew moving to another area. On the way they come across another building, which is closed. Pointing to the building, Kanise asks whether it, too, is a shipyard where nuclear-powered submarines are built. This time, the manager appears reluctant to answer, merely saying that radiation levels here are normal. The narrator says: "According to the manager, matters relating to nuclear-powered submarines are classified as top military secrets and he cannot comment on them."

Video cuts to show large portions of a submarine laid out in front of the building, then shows file photos of a Typhoon-class nuclear-powered sub, with the narrator describing the shock of Western nations when the pictures of the Typhoon were released for the first time, saying attention was focused on the sail of the Typhoon.

Video cuts to show freelance military analyst Kazuhisa Ogawa, who talks about the significance of the Typhoons. Ogawa says the Typhoons were made large not because of antiquated Soviet technology, but because it is well designed for operations in the Arctic Ocean. He adds that the submarine is a "monster."

Video then shows a simulation of a U.S. nuclear-powered submarine launching ballistic missiles, with the narrator describing the function of strategic nuclear subs in modern warfare.

Next the video shows a general view of Petropavlovsk, the home port of the Russian Pacific Fleet, then shows Delta-class, Victor-class, and Oscar-class nuclear-powered submarines, with the narrator noting that 24 out of Russia's 62 nuclear-powered submarines reportedly are stationed with the Pacific Fleet.

Video then shows Kanise visiting Russian Pacific Fleet Headquarters in Vladivostok to interview Vice Admiral Gennadiy Aleksandrovich Khvatov, commander of the fleet, on the current situation and role of nuclear-powered submarines.

Khvatov, speaking in Russian with simultaneous Japanese translation, states: "Since we no longer have any specific enemies, at present the primary task of the nuclear submarine brigade is national defense. Under

such circumstances, we do not have to assign offensive operations to our nuclear subs." Asked if his fleet really needs such a large strategic sub as the Typhoon, Commander Khvatov says: "As a commander, it is quite natural to desire the most advanced weapons. I believe commanders in your country would give you the same answer."

Video cuts to show Kanise in the studio explaining the location of Russian Pacific Fleet naval bases and the nuclear-powered submarines which are said to be deployed in the Arctic region, pointing to several places on a map of the northern hemisphere.

After showing a segment on the Bush-Yeltsin agreement to reduce strategic nuclear weapons, video carries an interview with former Norwegian Deputy Defense Minister (?John Scorgan) by an unidentified reporter. Scorgan says the role of ballistic missile submarines will become more important since the U.S.-Russian nuclear reduction agreement does not include submarine-launched strategic missiles; Russia's submarine-launched missiles are concentrated in the waters off Kamchatka and the Kola Peninsula.

Video then shows the film crew visiting the Norwegian-Russian border area in the Barents Sea in company with Norwegian border guards. It shows the guards patrolling the Kola Peninsula border, then briefly shows a Norwegian Air Force P-3C airplane flying over the area to monitor the movement of Russian submarines in the Arctic.

Video shows Elena MaSchbetz, a Norwegian pilot, who says: "I was really surprised when I saw the Typhoon for the first time. I have never been afraid when flying but, all of a sudden, I felt fear. Compared to the Typhoon we look very tiny. It took us a long time to catch up with it and pass over it. I have never seen such a huge thing in my life."

The camera crew then go back to the Kola Peninsula. As they are filming from a speed boat, a Kilo-class submarine is seen moving toward an inlet. Masahiro Ketatani of Tokai University Information Technology Center uses computer analysis to predict that the submarine was heading toward (?Zapadnaya Ritza) base—as it is code named by the Department of Defense. The video shows satellite photos of the base, saying this must be used for Typhoon-class nuclear submarines.

Video pans to show distant view of the Russian Northern Fleet Headquarters at Severomorsk, where many warships—including the Kiev-class aircraft carrier Baku and the Kirov-class nuclear-powered missile cruiser Kalinin—are at anchor. Video then shows an entrance way to a base called (?Nerpichya Guppa), where three Typhoon-class submarines are seen at anchor.

Video cuts to the TBS studio where newscasters Kanise, Ryoji, and Ogawa are standing in front of a large map of the Scandinavian Peninsula. Using the map and a satellite photo, they describe the location of the Russian

submarine base, stressing how fjords on the Kola Peninsula are the ideal location for secret submarine bases.

Video shows Kanise and the film crew being introduced to the base commander, making arrangements regarding filming restrictions on base, and Kanise walking along the submarine mooring points where a Typhoon is at anchor. The TBS crew is led to one of three Typhoons at anchor. The narrator says Russia currently has six Typhoons, and the crew got to go aboard the third-oldest one.

Officers on deck welcome the TBS crew, but refuse to show the front portion where the nuclear missile launchers are located. Kanise points at two protrusions on the rear deck, which have been thought to be special propulsion devices. However, the screen caption says they are just stabilizers.

The TBS crew enter the submarine and climb into the sail. The video shows the front deck as seen from the sail, highlighting the missile hatches. The narrator explains the power of nuclear missiles mounted on the submarine. The next scene shows Kanise and his translator walking along the hatches on the front deck, both men in the company of Captain Petrov.

Captain Petrov, speaking in Russian with simultaneous Japanese translation, says: "This is a strategic nuclear submarine, and as a matter of course, nuclear missiles are mounted under the deck." Asked about his biggest concern as captain of such a large submarine, Captain Petrov states: "I pay primary attention to the safety of the nuclear reactor. I think my heaviest responsibility is to prevent accidental launching of nuclear missiles without due process."

Video cuts to Kanise in the TBS studio, displaying a miniature model of a Typhoon and describing how large the submarine is.

Video shows publicity film of a Typhoon surfacing in icy waters, that describes how the submarine is well designed for operations in the Arctic Ocean. Introducing various features of the Typhoon, the video caption notes it is 170 meters long and 23 meters wide. The narrator says the full crew complement is 150 and that all the staff officers in the control room are elite officers of the Russian Navy.

An officer walking down a walkway describes the living quarters. He walks into a dining room on the bottom of a three-story living area. Video briefly shows a recreation room, sauna, training gym, and swimming pool within the submarine. Birds and fish are kept in the recreation room. Sub-Lieutenant Valentin, a 32-year-old sailor from Russia, says he is happy to be part of the crew of the ultramodern submarine.

Video shows crew during a fire-fighting exercise. Freelance military analyst Kazuhisa Ogawa notes the submarine contains many wooden parts, and describes how the wooden interior is dangerous for a fire-prone warship. He indicates the interior of the submarine does

not at all look like that of a warship. Ogawa adds the crew may well be aware that no one can survive if the submarine engages in combat. Video shows the Typhoon leaving port.

Video cuts to Kanise, Ogawa, and Ryoji in the studio discussing the significance of the large ballistic submarine. Kanise says the Typhoon is most useful to Russia as a political trump card, noting that Russia has succeeded in taking over the former Soviet Union's position as a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Supreme Soviet

Parliament Prepares for Session Opening on 22 Sep

OW0309225692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1604 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Preparations for the 5th session of the Supreme Soviet which opens on September 22nd were being discussed on Thursday [3 September] at a meeting between the chairman of parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, and leaders of parliamentary factions. The leader of the "Communists of Russia" faction, Gennadiy Sayenko, told journalists that the "Russian Unification" group had once again put forward the question about calling an emergency session of the Supreme Soviet. "In the south of the country a crisis situation has developed (i.e. the conflict in Abkhazia) and parliament cannot simply stand by", Saenko explained. He said that Khasbulatov had proposed waiting until the results of talks which began in Moscow on Thursday on the conflict were received.

The leader of "Communists of Russia" stated that "no crisis would arise" in the Supreme Soviet due to demands for the chairman's resignation. In his opinion, the attacks on Khasbulatov had been made by the democratic wing of parliament in order to divert voters' attention from the economic crisis.

Filatov on Upcoming Session

PM0309142192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 2 Sep 92 First Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with Sergey Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, by Yelena Musatova under the "On the Eve of the Session" rubric; place and date not given: "There Will Be a Lot of Work. Hard Work"]

[Text] [Musatova] Sergey Aleksandrovich, when exactly is the Russian Supreme Soviet meeting for its routine session?

[Filatov] The fifth session is supposed to open 22 September and continue until the end of the year. But the Supreme Soviet will start working at full strength before that: A meeting with leaders of republic, kray, and oblast soviets and presidents and heads of administration is

scheduled for 11 and 12 September in Cheboksary. The Russian president will give an address and a range of questions will be specified.

[Musatova] What questions are on the session's agenda?

[Filatov] We have not prepared a rigid agenda, but there is a schedule which contains 116 questions approved by the Supreme Soviet Presidium. There are also additional questions from committees, commissions, and local soviets. New questions may also arise during our work. The agenda will be formed as we go along, later.

[Musatova] Which of the planned questions do you consider to be the most important?

[Filatov] Three basic groups can be distinguished. The first relates to economic reform, but also includes the whole complex of draft laws connected with it. For example, on social protection, land reform, and ecology. The economic reform needs a legislative base, further development, and amendments.

The second group includes draft laws that will ensure the observance of the Federation Treaty. The stability of our society and national territories depends on this. The legislative base for the division of powers between federative and republic state organs will now be laid. And if we leave any gaps here, then nationalistic groups will immediately try to fill them. It will be hard to deal with the consequences of that, so we must avert any possible misunderstandings ahead of time. We are planning to submit to the session draft laws on autonomous okrugs, ethnic minorities, and other things.

The third group includes questions relating to the preparation of the new Constitution, that is, the adoption of amendments. We are aiming to conclude this work before the end of the year, so that we can convene a congress at the beginning of next year and submit the Russian Federation Basic Law for examination by the congress.

[Musatova] How will the parliamentary work be organized?

[Filatov] The previous work procedure left too little time for committees and commissions to work on the draft laws, which was why documents were often issued in "raw" form.

We propose that forms of work such as parliamentary hearings, where the public and professionals can be involved in the discussion, should be strengthened. Alternate versions of drafts will be discussed there, and it will be possible to scrutinize the content more deeply.

At the session there will be a serious discussion about the apparatus. The point is that a very small number of people participate in lawmaking activity, while the majority is "on the sidelines," as it were. At the same

time, Supreme Soviet members need individual assistants, mainly for organizational work. There will therefore probably be a certain redistribution of duties and a change in the internal structure of the Supreme Soviet.

[Musatova] Some people believe that the session should be convened earlier in connection with the complex situation in various regions of the CIS and Abkhazia in particular. What is your reaction to that?

[Filatov] I do not see any need for it. Things will scarcely change just because parliamentarians gather and adopt another appeal. We do not need words, we need practical work. And this is done at the level of the Security Council, the government, and the president. Meetings and talks are being held. Two deputies' groups are helping resolve the conflict on the spot. In a day's time Yeltsin will hold an extremely important meeting with the Georgian, Abkhaz, and North Caucasus leaders. If no practical steps were being taken by the executive power, then an emergency session would be justified.

[Musatova] Every day we hear a lot of uncomplimentary words being spoken about the Supreme Soviet and representative power in general. In light of these critical assessments, what frame of mind are you in as you start work?

[Filatov] To be honest, it is hard to stay optimistic. My heart is very troubled. After all, serious divergences both of a political and an economic nature between the parliament and the president are discernible. Unfortunately they are getting worse.

At the same time, many democrats have departed for the executive power, and parliament is weakened. You scarcely hear any brilliant speeches from the Supreme Soviet rostrum. The balance between president and parliament is being disturbed. And to my mind, this is extremely dangerous.

I am placing my hopes in the reform coalition, which includes representatives of various factions and independent deputies.

It is time to learn to live and work with the people and the government we have. We have done enough dashing around from side to side. If the reform program is adopted, then we must carry it out. Particularly since every obstacle and every stoppage will bring people nothing but misfortune. Despite all the shortcomings, progress has already been made. And everyone recognizes this—even our critics.

Khasbulatov Meets Parliamentary Faction Leaders

LD0309185692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1552 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Moscow September 3 TASS—Ahead of the opening of the fifth session of the Russian Parliament, its

speaker, Ruslan Khasbulatov, held a meeting with the parliament faction leaders. Two factions, however, were not represented—Democratic Russia and Radical Democrats. Both factions have been pressing for Khasbulatov's resignation.

The question of the speakers's resignation was not raised during today's meeting, participants told ITAR-TASS. "Efforts should be pooled to give a boost to the economic reform, not to aggravate relations within the Parliament by artificial means," one participant, Gennadiy Sayenko, told ITAR-TASS.

The leaders of the Rossiyskoye Yedinstvo (Russian Unity) opposition faction raised the question about the convocation of an extraordinary session of the Parliament to discuss the situation in Abkhazia. But Ruslan Khasbulatov suggested that it would be wise to wait until the talks on Abkhazia, in which the leaders of Russia, Georgia and North-Caucasian republics were taking part, ended in Moscow today.

Change in Deputy Chairmen's Duties Explained

PM0309150792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 3 Sep 92 First Edition p 2

[Russian Supreme Soviet Press Center report: "A Single Team"]

[Text] Over the last few days many mass media have carried reports commenting on Supreme Soviet Chairman R.I. Khasbulatov's ordinance "On the Distribution of Duties Between the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet and the Deputy Chairmen of the Supreme Soviet and the chairmen of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Chambers."

This kind of "attention" to a routine organizational-technical internal parliamentary document appears strange, to say the least, unless some far-reaching political calculations are assumed.

The adoption of the new document on distribution of duties is not any "infringement" of anyone's rights (under the Constitution, the Supreme Soviet chairman alone determines the scope of his deputies' powers), but an objective necessity for bringing the previous distribution of duties in line with the practice of parliamentary activity. After all, V.F. Shumeiko, one of the Supreme

Soviet deputy chairmen, has been transferred to work with the government, and new legislation has assigned additional duties in the Security Council to the first deputy chairman. The reassignment of duties and a more equal distribution of workload among the deputy chairmen and chamber chairmen—these are the true reasons behind the reorganization of activity by parliament's leadership.

Nor are there any grounds to claim that there is a rift between the chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and his first deputy. In R.I. Khasbulatov's words, S.A. Filatov enjoys the trust of the Supreme Soviet leadership, and the entire hullabaloo raised by some publications can be appraised as an attempt to divert attention from the truly urgent and acute problems of economic reform and the development of events in North Caucasus, the Transcaucasus, and other hot spots.

Government Privatization Policy Criticized

OW0409043892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1854 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The majority of participants in the Russian parliament session Thursday [3 September] expressed critical remarks for the privatization program announced by the government. Speakers particularly pointed to the danger that distributing privatization checks would quickly lead the economy to "mafia control". Many claimed that if vouchers become a means of payment Russia could not avoid hyperinflation.

According to Academician Leonid Abalkin, each citizen's time spent working must be taken into account prior to dividing state property among the population. Russian Democratic Party leader Nikolay Travkin believes that issuing the vouchers "will lead to nothing other than socialist pretensions by the end of the year". He expressed his doubt that the privatization checks would stimulate a rise in production.

Vice Premier and State Property Committee Anatoliy Chubays refused in his speech the suggestion that the face value of a privatization check should be determined by the amount of time a citizen has worked, saying that with the inclusion of this criteria the differentiation among the population would be even greater.

International Affairs

Foreign Minister Zlenko Visits Romania

Previews Trip Goals

LD0309223292 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya
Television Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Interview with Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko by unidentified correspondent on 2 September; place not given; no video available—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Anatoliy Maximovych, this is your first official visit to Romania. Why is it necessary just now? What do you expect from this trip?

[Zlenko] This is a very important visit. I will tell you that after certain circles, supported by politicians and the Parliament of Romania, hindered the process of the building of Ukrainian-Romanian relations, and attempted to create a zone of tension in the center of Europe, I think this visit should testify namely to the fact that there are corresponding Ukrainian foreign political and economic interests with regard to Romania. I think that this visit should absolutely clear up our future relations. There are certain grounds for this. First, I would like to say common frontiers, the existence of similar interests, the existence of even such similar objectives in the building of a state on new principles, the holding of economic reforms, and in resolving a whole range of other question—all this shows that there is something in common and we can cooperate.

[Correspondent] Tell us, as far as I know, out of more than 100 political parties in Romania, approximately 30 of the most influential ones are putting forward territorial claims to Ukraine, and this was also underlined by the Government of Romania in a similar document. What is your position, the position of Ukraine, during this visit, precisely regarding territorial claims?

[Zlenko] Our position is clear. We do not lay territorial claims on anyone. In any case we do not put forward these territorial claims. We reject any territorial claims to our state. Obviously we are guided by respective international legal documents. First of all, this means the UN Charter and the Helsinki Process, where the principles regulating relations between states are clearly and precisely defined. This is the principle on which we will stand, and this is the principle which will be beneficial to us in our negotiations. We will not deviate from this position.

Talks Begin

LD0409004392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1935 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dmitriy Dyakov]

[Text] Bucharest, 3 September—Romania and Ukraine do not intend to make territorial claims against each other because this would lead to a dead-end situation and retard the development of relations between them.

This is the conclusion reached by the respective foreign ministers, Adrian Nastase and Anatoliy Zlenko. The latter is paying an official visit to the Romanian capital.

Speaking on Thursday at a news conference on the results of the talks, A. Nastase noted that the Romanian side attaches great importance to the visit by the Ukrainian foreign minister. During the visit a broad range of bilateral problems were discussed. There was a useful exchange of views on a number of international questions, including the situation in Moldova and Yugoslavia.

A. Nastase spoke highly of the consular convention and agreement on cultural, scientific, and educational cooperation between the two countries, both of which were signed today. A draft treaty on cooperation and mutual understanding, which will be signed later by the two countries' heads of state, was also examined. "Today's talks and the accords that were reached will enable our relations to acquire a durable legal foundation more quickly," the head of the Romanian Foreign Ministry stressed.

A. Zlenko also expressed satisfaction with the talks. He noted that the Ukraine was striving to establish good-neighborly ties with Romania and to expand economic, political, and cultural contacts with that country. "In the recent past, Romania was one of our main trading partners. We not only have a common border but also common problems and interests," the guest stressed.

Answering correspondents' questions, A. Zlenko noted that the Ukraine could not be held responsible for the consequences of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, which was signed by the leaders of the former USSR. The Romanian parliament's declaration of November last year, which made unmistakable territorial claims against the Ukraine, "has to a certain extent retarded" the establishment of ties between the two countries. References to the creation of a "greater Romania" are, as he put it, political speculation exploited by party leaders for electoral purposes. Experience shows that attempts to revise borders and interfere in internal affairs are fraught with serious consequences.

An atmosphere of goodwill is now being created in Romania, the head of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry said. Responding to a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent, he added that "full mutual understanding was achieved with those leaders with whom we have held talks here. We agreed with the proposition that we must be guided by international agreements and the CSCE Final Act as far as borders are concerned."

In turn, A. Nastase noted that "the legacy of the past" ought not to hinder the development of relations between the two countries. "We noted the presence of a problem but decided to leave it to one side and to concentrate on the expansion of political, economic, and human contacts." He disclosed that during the talks agreement had been reached on the establishment of commissions of experts that will look into problems

worrying ethnic minorities in both countries—the Romanian minority in the Ukraine and the Ukrainian minority in Romania.

The delegation headed by A. Zlenko was received by Romanian Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan.

Agreements Signed

LD0409102892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0924 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dmitriy Dyakov]

[Text] Bucharest September 4 ITAR-TASS—Romania and Ukraine are not going to lay territorial claims to each other because it will lead them up a blind alley and hamper development of relations between them. This conclusion was drawn by foreign ministers of the two states Adrian Nastase and Anatoliy Zlenko, who is staying in the Romanian capital on an official visit.

Speaking at a news conference on Thursday [3 September] at the end of the talks, Nastase said that the Romanian side attaches great importance to the visit by the Ukrainian foreign minister, which focused on a wide range of bilateral issues. A useful exchange of views was held on a number of international issues, including the situation in Moldova and Yugoslavia.

Nastase gave a high appraisal to the consular convention and the agreement on cooperation between the two countries in the field of culture, science and education, signed on Friday. The sides also examined the draft treaty on cooperation and mutual understanding that will be signed later by heads of the two states.

Zlenko expressed his satisfaction with the talks. He noted that Ukraine seeks to establish good neighbourly relations with Romania, to expand economic, political and cultural contacts with this country.

In reply to correspondents' questions, Zlenko said that Ukraine cannot bear responsibility for the consequences of the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact, signed by the leaders of the former Soviet Union. The statement by the Romanian parliament in November last year, which unequivocally lays territorial claims to Ukraine, "somewhat hampered" the improvement of relations between the two countries. According to the Ukrainian foreign minister, talk about creating "great Romania" is political speculation which is used by party leaders for election purposes. Experience shows that attempts to redraw borders and interference in internal affairs are fraught with serious consequences.

"At present a goodwill atmosphere is being fostered in Romania," Zlenko told ITAR-TASS. "We have found complete understanding on the part of those leaders with whom we negotiated here. We have agreed that it is necessary to abide by international agreements and the final act of the CSCE with regard to border matters."

For his part, Nastase noted that the legacy of the past must not stand in the way of developing relations between the two countries. "We have stated the problem in general outline, but decided to sidestep it and deal with ways to expand political, economic and human contacts." He said that an agreement was reached at the talks to set up expert commissions to examine issues that interest national minorities in both countries: Romanians in Ukraine and Ukrainians in Romania.

The delegation, led by Zlenko, was received by Romanian Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan.

Further on Soviet Property Transfer Commission

AU0209143792 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in Ukrainian 1200 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] Problems of transferring a part of the former Union's property for Ukraine's diplomatic needs have been resolved in the case of 15 foreign countries. These are, in particular, Germany, India, the United States, France, Finland, Sweden, Mexico, and Indonesia. This was stated by Volodymyr Yalovy, chief of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry's department dealing with organizing the exploitation of foreign facilities, at a briefing for Ukrainian and foreign journalists. He commented upon the results of the meeting of the joint Ukrainian-Russian commission that took place in Kiev.

Volodymyr Yalovy emphasized that, in the near future, representatives of the joint commission will go to the aforementioned countries in order to sign acts of reception and transfer of the immovable property.

With regard to other countries, further consultations are necessary. Answering reporters' questions, the representative of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry stressed that the Russian side provided full information on the property of diplomatic and trade missions. In regards to other property, such as that of Aeroflot, the Sea Fleet, and houses of friendship, Ukraine does not yet have full information.

Ukraine believes, said Volodymyr Yalovy, that all facilities of all organizations must be included in the division.

National Affairs

Kravchuk Says No Talks Until Strike Over

LD0409044192 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya
Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] To replace the striking locomotive crews on Kiev passenger trains, 40 crews came to Kiev from the Odessa, Pridniprovskyy, and the Pivdenny railways.

After familiarizing himself with the strikers' demands, Ukraine President Leonid Kravchuk has adopted the following decision: Suspension of the strike is a condition for further negotiations and resolution of all issues. After an official statement suspending the strike, the

lawsuit by the Ukrainian Transport Ministry filed with the Ukraine Supreme Court will be withdrawn. No sanctions will be applied against strikers or trade union leaders.

[Later in the same newscast, the following is added to this report: "Today the Ukraine Supreme Council Presidium met in session. The strike by groups of miners, air traffic controllers, and railway workers, all of whom are part of the trade unions led by the Consultative Council of Free Trade Unions of Ukraine, was considered. At the meeting, the causes of the strike were fundamentally analyzed. Great concern was expressed with the fact that such actions have caused enormous material and moral losses, are undermining the economy of an independent Ukraine, and are heightening the crisis.

["Serious criticism was aimed at the Ukraine Cabinet of Ministers and the leaders of the transport sectors who, while knowing about preparations for the strikes, did not do everything possible to warn of them. Members of the Presidium and people's deputies heard with indignation the facts about the callous attitude of strike participants toward passengers in trains halted by striking machinists and toward passengers stranded in airports and railway stations. Tens of thousands of people, among them many children, old people, sick people, and invalids, found themselves in extraordinarily complex, sometimes inhuman, conditions. The necessity of making urgent arrangements for the quickest possible end to the strikes, the responsibility of their organizers, and the [word indistinct] of the participants within the full scope of the current legislation was stressed. Vasyl Vasylevych Durdinets, Ukraine Supreme Council first deputy, presided over the session."]

Trade Unions Make New Demands

OW0309125292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1022 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Ukrainian Free Trade Unions [UFTU] that declared a strike without a time limit on Wednesday [2 September] have demanded that the tariff agreement negotiated with the government be signed by President Kravchuk. They also called for the resignation of the Fokin cabinet and the abolition of the court decision declaring the labor action illegal. This was disclosed to IF [INTERFAX] by deputy chairman of the Independent Miners' Union (the backbone of the affiliation) Sergey Klimov.

The old demands remain: no economic sanctions to striking plants and time on the air for union leaders.

Talks resumed this morning in Kiev between the unions and the government on the tariff agreement. Mr. Klimov said that notable differences remain. The authorities suggest stopping the strike first and then discussing demands, while the UFTU insist on the immediate signing of the agreement.

Meanwhile, the general strike of miners, pilots, air-traffic controllers and railway workers continues. According to the Kiev strike committee, all airports, except Kharkov, do not function. 21 railway junctions and 40 coal mines are affected by the labor action.

Demands Qualified as 'Ungrounded'

OW0309154192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1249 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Ukrainian Cabinet has qualified as ungrounded, the free trade unions' demands related to the tariff agreement.

The Cabinet's press service has circulated a statement which says that it will take billions of roubles to meet these demands. The government will have to allocate 3.5 billion roubles for increasing the air-traffic controllers' salaries 2.5 - 3.5 times (to 30,000 - 35,000 roubles) as they demand.

The press service says that the strike is illegal as it goes against the law on settling labour disputes. On Wednesday, the government lodged a suit to the Ukrainian Supreme Court demanding that the strike be qualified as illegal.

Trade Councils Call For Immediate End to Strike

LD0309222692 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian
1829 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] The following trade councils—the Council of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions, the Coordinating Council of the Solidarity Trade Union, the Council of the Federation of Trade Unions of Cooperatives and Other Forms of Free Enterprise, the Council of the Trade Unions of Rail Workers and Transport Construction Workers, the Council of the Trade Unions of Workers of the Armed Forces, and the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Workers of the Academy of Sciences—received information about the strike which the Coordinating Council of Free Trade Unions of Ukraine called and resorted to with great concern.

In their statement they appealed to the Coordinating Council of Free Trade Unions to immediately end the strike, join the agreement of Trade Centers and the government, and resolve all the painful issues within the framework of the general tariff agreement in the interests of everyone and not of individual groups of workers.

At the same time, the statement from the six trade associations stresses that we believe such a situation developed as a result of the unconsidered and inconsistent actions of the government in the implementation of economic reform. We propose that the president call to personal account those government officials through whose fault the following social explosion has occurred in society.

While confirming our consistent position directed at the protection of workers' and social rights of members of trade unions, and approaching the problems with understanding, we cannot at the same time, support the methods which they have resorted to and condemn the efforts by any trade associations to obtain social privileges for one category of workers at the expense of other professional groups. Such actions undermine the economy of an independent Ukraine, discredit the trade union and the workers' movement, and lead to further impoverishment of the population as a whole.

On 12 August, six trade union associations of Ukraine comprising more than 25 million members concluded an agreement with the government for the second half of this year. It envisages, with the participation of trade unions, the preparation for a radical reform of salaries and working out a general tariff agreement for 1993.

Political Parties Call for End to Strike

LD0309164492 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Today, in connection with the practical attempt of a strike at the transport lines of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Republican Party, the Union of Ukrainian Students, the Democratic Party of Ukraine, the Crimea with Ukraine Committee, and the congress of national and democratic forces have adopted a statement which I would like to read out. This is a position of those public organizations which signed it:

Today, 2 September, an attempt was made to start a strike by railways employees and flight controllers of Ukraine. A number of transport arteries in our state have been partially paralyzed. We understand that our society is living in difficult conditions and that the majority of workers suffer material (?hardships). Nevertheless, we are convinced that a strike at this juncture is far from the best way to fight to improve one's material situation and the life of society, [word indistinct] conditions of work. A transport strike means paralysis of the rhythmical life of society, a break in mutual deliveries between enterprises, and the possibility of production interruption. All this will further deepen the already extremely difficult and critical economic conditions. In such conditions, the strike by railways employees and flight controllers could result in a considerable worsening of the economy of the new Ukrainian state, which aspires to affirm itself.

Therefore, we call on the striking collectives with an appeal to understand the significance of the current situation and to stop the process of the strike, having chosen the path of negotiations with the state administration. We call on all our supporters and activists to go to the striking collectives, to explain the difficult situation which has taken shape, and to try to convince them to go back to work for the sake of political stability, civil accord, and the benefit of Ukraine. This strike, which started a long time before the session of the Supreme Soviet because of the absence of a considerable group of the Ukrainian leadership, is not

being given a sufficient negotiation process with the Government. It arouses concern and may become a catalyst toward ruinous tendencies within the state. It is clear that raising the income of one or several groups of workers will not solve the question in general. Everyone is having a hard time now.

It is necessary to strive for deep economic reforms and to change the current government, while understanding that an improvement in the general state of the economy will not occur tomorrow or the day after. All participants of the strike must decide whether their actions are correct in this situation and whether they are responsible for the future or our common home, Ukraine. If the Supreme Soviet unable—even after 15 September, when the next session starts—to form a government of reformers, then the time will have come for coordinated resolute actions by all the forces which support radical economic reforms. Only a balanced position, a tolerant attitude to one another, and civilized methods of activity will allow us to preserve the Ukrainian state.

Miners Call for Reasonable Behavior

LD0309225592 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Russian 0900 3 Sep 92

[Text] An appeal to the strikers has been issued by leaders of miners' working groups in Lugansk Oblast for monitoring the implementation of government resolutions. They note that the strike has affected a comparatively small number of pits. From the miners' point of view, the statement stresses, the present strike is directed at disrupting the negotiation process between the Government and trade union staff of the Ukrainian coal industry on introducing changes and additions to the current tariff agreement. The leaders of the miners' working groups call on the miners and railwaymen to be reasonable.

Transport Minister on Illegality of Strike

LD0409084492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by V. Lyaskalo; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] At this very moment, here in the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers building, a joint session, or rather talks, are going on between a government commission and a consultative council from the strikers of the free unions.

[Begin O.D. Klimpush, transport minister and cochairman of the government commission, recording] This strike is illegal, and we have gone to the courts, the Supreme Court, in order to determine the legality of these actions. At the moment, it is also tense. We are gradually dealing with the rail situation, and by the end of the day we will completely control the rail situation. It is slightly more complicated with regard to aviation. We are taking measures so military air traffic controllers can

take control and ensure the minimum volumes of traffic that are necessary to ensure uninterrupted air travel.

Media Accused of Exaggerating Strike Scale

LD0309212392 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian
1220 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Reports circulated by some mass media on the strike action announced by the Ukrainian Coordination Council of Free Trade Unions give spurious information and exaggerate the scale of the action. In particular, some reports talk about mass support for the strike by Ukrainian railway workers, which does not correspond to complete reality. In reality, only the engine drivers at the depots of the Kiev passenger, Darnitsa, Zhmerinka, and Kozyatin railways are striking. Altogether in Ukraine there are 78 railway depots! Their workers are doing all in their power in order to provide normal transportation and to eliminate destabilization caused by the strikers' actions.

Thus, in the 24 hours since the strike began, despite difficulties, one-third of the scheduled passenger trains left Kiev. Measures are being taken to return to the normal traffic schedule as soon as possible. At the same time, instances of gross violation by strikers of their job instructions which threaten the safety of traffic and the life and health of passengers causes concern.

The situation in aviation is somewhat more difficult. In the first 24 hours of the strike, 405 flights were delayed. The worst situation is at Borispol Airport, where not only the flying contingent, but the ground technical services staff are on strike. Considering the situation, and with the aim of providing an uninterrupted air service and the safety of pilots, the Government has instructed the Defense Ministry to take control of the air traffic functions and to secure the landing of civil aircraft on military airfields, by agreement with the association "Airways of Ukraine."

It is known that the transport workers have also been joined by representatives from the Independent Trade Union of Miners; but not from eight towns of Ukraine, according to Porfymovych, correspondent of DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAINA, and moreover not from 10 towns, as Sergey Klymov, first deputy head of the Consultation Council of the Free Trade Unions of Ukraine, stated in a report in the Kiivska Panorama program. In reality, yesterday four coal and two iron-ore mines did not work to full capacity, which resulted in losses of 8.5 thousand tonnes of coal—the average production norm is 400,000 tonnes.

Some reports in the press create the impression that the negotiations between the Government and representatives of the free union have been disrupted. This does

not correspond to reality. The negotiations continue. The Government commission continues to look for a way out of the situation.

[Signed] The press service of the Ukrainian prime minister

Strike Ends, Cabinet Accepts Demands

OW0409105492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1000 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The strike, started by the Free Trade Unions of Ukraine on September 2, ended at 2100 local time on Thursday [3 September]. As the Kiev-based Strike Committee has reported to IF [INTERFAX], the cabinet has agreed to meet all the strikers demands, including the signing of a tariff agreement, no persecution of strikers and union leaders, and the allocation of time for Union chiefs to speak on television.

In the words of the vice-chairman of an independent coal miners union (the Free Unions backbone) Sergey Klimov, the guarantees have been given personally by Leonid Kravchuk. An appropriate cable with his signature was received by the Strike Committee on Thursday.

On the President's instruction, the cabinet's lawsuit to the Republican Parliament to recognize the strike as illegal has been returned. The leaders of five trade union associations, belonging to the Free Unions, will speak on Ukrainian Television on Friday.

Grain Production Expected to Grow

LD0209111892 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program
Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] Ukraine has enough bread. So far over 37 million tonnes of grain have been harvested, and nearly 10 million tonnes have been sold to the state. This was stated by Anatoliy Chepurnyy, head of the standing commission of the Ukraine Supreme Soviet for issues of the agricultural and industrial complex, at a news conference for Ukrainian and foreign journalists that was held yesterday in Kiev. In his opinion, Ukraine will be one of the five biggest grain producers and will have harvest 40-42 million tonnes of grain this year.

Party To Campaign for Parliamentary Reelection

LD0309145992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] The leaders of the Ukrainian Republican Party have adopted a resolution criticizing the actions of the Supreme Soviet and the Cabinet of Ministers regarding stabilization of the economic, political, and social situation in the state. Under the conditions of the independence of Ukraine, states the resolution, the Supreme Soviet, elected on the unprofessional basis according to a one-party system, has shown itself an ineffective body which does not reflect the distribution of political forces

and is not able to carry out its functions in the process of building the state.

In this connection, the leadership of the Ukrainian Republican Party has made a decision to demand that a government of reformers that would orient itself toward national priorities be created during the first month of

the session of the Supreme Soviet. The party even propose candidates for a new cabinet of ministers.

The republicans plan to prepare amendments to the draft constitution of Ukraine and to prepare a draft law on elections on a multiparty basis. The party will demand that they be adopted and that new parliamentary elections be scheduled.

Belarus**Intelligence Groups To Collect Data Jointly***LD0309166092 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1229 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[By BELINFORM correspondent Larisa Lazar for TASS]

[Text] Minsk September 3 TASS—The intelligence services of Russia and Belarus agreed on Thursday [2 September] to refrain from activities on each other's territory and to join efforts in collecting economic information abroad.

A corresponding document was signed by Eduard Shirkovskiy, chairman of the Belarusian KGB, and Yevgeniy Primakov, head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service.

The interests of Russia and Belarus coincide in many things. The main aim of the agreement is to coordinate the activities of secret services in the interests of security of both countries, Primakov said at a press conference after the signing ceremony.

The two secret services will join efforts in collecting mostly economic information abroad. Both sides are interested in avoiding conflict situations in Europe. The agreement also envisages exchange of materials, help in investigation work and joint training of personnel, according to Primakov.

Shushkevich Adviser on Parliament Session Results*OW0309225192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1737 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Presidium of the Belarusian parliament at its September 2 meeting resolved that the next session of the Republic's Supreme Council will be opened October 20.

In an exclusive interview for INTERFAX's correspondent, the head of state's adviser, Ivan Stepura, said he was puzzled with what he termed "procrastinated" preparations for the parliament's session.

Ivan Stepura revealed that some of the Presidium members were proposing to open the session even later than October 20, motivating the delay by unpreparedness of bills for consideration. "The position of certain members of the Presidium perplexes me, considering they were supposed to be involved in the preparation of the Supreme Council's next session since April following the end of the parliament's preceding session," he said.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: In compliance with the current legislation, the next session of the Belarusian Supreme

Council can be convened in a month after a decision in that regard is passed by the parliament's presidium.

"I cannot comprehend their sluggishness. They are fully aware of the situation in the republic, and they know that the government is literally crying for certain legislative acts," Ivan Stepura said. In his words, some of the republic's political leaders did propose to convene the next session of the republic's parliament in early October. They, however, failed to persuade the other part of the Presidium to carry the proposal. It was then that Stanislav Shushkevich came up with an intermediate solution, moving that the parliament session be convened October 20. His motion was seconded.

According to the information available to the INTERFAX correspondent, Stanislav Shushkevich recently called for convening the parliament's next session at the beginning of October. Sources close to the head of the Belarusian parliament indicate that the controversy that developed at the Presidium session is clearly pointing to a rift in the political leadership of the Belarusian parliament. The same sources maintain that a considerable share of the Presidium which was formed by the former head of the republic's Supreme Soviet, Nikolay Dementei, (Stanislav Shushkevich holding the post of first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet) do not approve the policy pursued by the incumbent parliament head.

Local observers deliberate that Shushkevich's intention to reform the republic's power system and support the initiative advanced by the republic's Popular Front to stage a referendum on confidence in the republic's parliament and government is prodding some of the Presidium members to pass over to an open confrontation, realizing that owing to various objective reasons they have but few chances to retain leading positions in new power structures.

INTERFAX possesses information about the intent of the still inarticulate opposition in the republic's political leadership to pass through the parliament a decision which would diminish the results of the referendum, transforming their import from mandatory to informative. The opposition members believe that such a measure would enable them to retain their offices for a longer period.

State of Emergency in Agriculture Due to Drought*LD0309224492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1916 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[By BELINFORM correspondent Viktor Kuklov for TASS]

[Text] Minsk September 3 TASS—According to the Belarusian Government, agriculture in the republic is in a state of emergency. This has been caused by the unprecedented drought and by an extremely unfavourable economic situation in agriculture. The Cabinet of Ministers is controlling the situation. Over 170 thousand

people will be assisting rural tollers in autumn. Most higher educational establishments, technicums and vocational training schools have already sent students to participate in the harvest campaign. Servicemen and workers of industrial enterprises will also participate.

The grain harvest have virtually been completed in the republic, Aleksandr Bokach, the deputy chairman of the Belarusian Council of Ministers, told BELINFORM. The gross harvest of grain is expected to be around eight million tonnes, which is two million tonnes less than planned. The government takes urgent measures to purchase grain in Kazakhstan, the Stavropol territory and abroad.

Crops of potatoes are not expected to be high. Potatoes are to be harvested from only 765 thousand hectares. About two million tonnes of potatoes should be harvested to meet the needs of all consumers. The Belarusian Government fixed a firm minimum price, ten roubles per kilogramme, for sales of potatoes outside the republic.

A paradoxical situation has formed in livestock breeding. By all indications, there is an obvious crisis of overproduction of meat in Belarus. Refrigerators are shock full of meat and farms cannot fulfill plans for the sale of cattle on schedule.

Ostankino Viewers Protest Program Changes

OW0409055792 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Report by A. Guretskiy; from "Utro"]

[Text] We, the Ostankino correspondents, did not want to touch this subject in principle, even though this had happened a month ago. The main thing was: How would people react? Therefore, numerous letters directed to all the Belarusian newspapers and other mass media are still arriving today, posing the questions: Why have the programs [channels] been changed? Why will they not let us watch Channel 1 Ostankino? As television viewer Peskova writes in the newspaper: In any event, the viewer should have the right to choose what to watch. Peskova considers that no such choice remains.

Very few official explanations were given on this matter, and they all come down to this: Under the terms of the republic's sovereignty, preference should be given to national television. But no one has ever disputed that. Another question: Why fill the people's favorite Ostankino channel with local programs, and transfer the Moscow broadcasts to channel 30, which only the latest television sets are equipped to receive? The majority of Belarusian inhabitants do not have such television sets at present, and at current prices they are not likely to have them. They suggest the use of 10-meter antenna additions, but these are also not readily available. Pensioners, for instance, especially cannot afford them, and there is no hope for a communal antenna. Channel 1 Ostankino

has, as they say, been chopped off. So, Belarusian television viewers officially have a choice, but in practice it does not exist. In addition, the well-known Mexican series ["The Rich Also Cry"] has already ended for many. In not accepting this state of affairs, the people are writing to the papers demanding the return of the television channels to their previous positions. They recall a similar precedent set in Moldova, but they listened to the community's opinion there with good sense—especially in a case in which the communications personnel and the workers of the local television stations themselves do not approve of the authorities' decision and believe that such an action harms every one.

Moldova

President Snegur Sums Up Switzerland Visit

LD0309180292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1106 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau September 3 TASS—Switzerland will grant Moldova a large credit on condition of preserving the integrity and independence of the republic, President Mircea Snegur of Moldova said on his arrival in Chisinau on Wednesday [2 September] night from Switzerland.

The Moldovan delegation also comprised Prime Minister Andrei Sangeliy and Foreign Minister Nicolae Tsu.

Asked by journalists, Snegur stressed that during the visit the delegation established diplomatic relations with Switzerland, discussed specific issues of cooperation between the two countries. Snegur spoke out in favour of studying the experience of territorial and state set-up of Switzerland and its policy of neutrality. The president also announced his plan to pay a visit to Bulgaria to sign a treaty laying down the principles of cooperation with that country.

Economic Council Formed on Relations With Romania

AU0309060092 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Report by Gabriel Ionescu from Chisinau]

[Text] The Government of the Republic of Moldova adopted a decision regarding the establishment of the Council in Charge of Coordinating Economic Relations with Romania. Mr. Nicolae Andronat, deputy prime minister of the Republic of Moldova, who is president of this council, plans to establish a systematic control on the observance of provisions included in Moldovan-Romanian economic accords.

The newly established body includes ministers, directors of various departments, associations, and firms and leaders of certain banking institutions.

Official on Military-Industrial Complex Layoffs

OW0309225492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1742 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with INTERFAX Moldova's First Vice Premier Nicolae Andronat said the national Cabinet was concerned about the wave of layoffs at the setups of the electronics industry which used to function as part of the Soviet military-industrial complex. Nicolae Andronat, who is in charge of economic development issues, described the situation as critical and said the industry's customers either cancelled their earlier requests for production or appeared unable to pay for the deliveries.

The government, Andronat said, was doing its best to help reduce the layoffs by helping the industry to switch to the production of consumer goods. As best as it could, the Cabinet was meeting suggestions for the production of upgraded medical equipment and means of communication. The preservation of Moldova's intellectual potential, the Vice Premier stressed, was of key importance. If the layoffs became sweeping, the republic would suffer irreparable damage, because, he said, it would take it years to return to the sophisticated technologies it might come to lose.

The Moldovan Vice Premier said the national economy would pay a dear price for the destruction of the electronics industry, which had, up till now, accounted for one fifth of the national gross income. The Vice Premier felt the country's advance in the field of science and technology depended on that industry.

Nicolae Andronatij said that under a tentative agreement between the Moldovan and Russian governments, Russian requests for Moldovan production would remain effective for the next two or three years, and the industry's customers in Russia would try to pay for them. The Vice Premier appreciated the Russian proposal for a consultative meeting of Russian and Moldovan defense production executives.

Controversy Over Church Accession Plan Noted

LD0309195592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1348 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau September 3 TASS—"The Moldovan Church has landed on the brink of a split. Taking the cue from the Ministry for Culture and Cults of the republic, several clergymen are trying to make the Moldovan Church accede to the Romanian Church," officials of the

Chisinau Diocese told the newspaper "NEZAVISIMAYA MOLDOVA", which published their statement today. According to Dean of the Chisinau St. George Church Nikolay Florenskiy, the discord was sown by "a group of leaders of the People's Christian-Democratic Front of Moldova, clergymen and deputies, who refuse to heed the voice of their own people".

The MOLDOVA PRESS AGENCY issued a report the day before about growing tension among clergymen. Thus, the National-Christian Party of the Republic called for the reunification of the Moldovan and Romanian churches and urged to restore the Chisinau Bessarabian metropolity. Several clergymen, including Beltsiy Bishop Petru, backed this idea. However, it was not supported by other clergymen and by the Archbishop of Chisinau and Moldova Vladimir. Grist was added to the mill by an incident that occurred at the residence of the Beltsy bishop. According to MOLDOVAPRES, anti-Romanian-minded clergymen broke into it and seized Bishop Petru's documents, money and other belongings, threatening to make short shrift of him. In his complaint to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Aleksius II, the bishop said the August 24 assembly of bishops, which went on record for the autonomy of the Moldovan Church, was held in violation of existing regulations, because only one-third of the republic's clergymen were present. In turn, the office of the Chisinau Diocese claimed that "the assembly was attended by 83 per cent of all the clergymen, an overwhelming majority of whom demanded autonomy, which they could not obtain due to Petru's unlawful actions". The conflict continues.

Ukraine's Strike Reroutes Blocked Trains

LD0309173792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1303 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau September 3 TASS—At the request of the Ukrainian authorities, Moldovan railwaymen are allowing passenger and cargo trains pass through the republic's territory from tonight, as Zhmerinki and Kiev are blocked by Ukrainian railway workers' strike. Since Wednesday [2 September] evening all trains, permission for which was requested by the Ukrainian side, have been allowed to pass through, the Chief of the Moldovan Railways, Grigoriy Mikelberg told ITAR-TASS. According to him, it was not so easy to do, as due to the conflict in the Dniester region, the main railway line in the republic is closed. The Bendery Executive Council together with the Unified Control Committee are still not allowing movement of trains between Tiraspol and Bessarabia sectors. The ban is explained by the prevailing unfavourable conditions in the suburban area of Bendery-Varnitsa due to the absence there of military commandant's office. When it is created and the railway line is taken under the reliable military control, the movement will be restored.

Kazakhstan

Government Forms Internal Affairs Department

LD0309141692 Alma-Ata Radio Alma-Ata World
Service in English 2030 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] Internal Affairs Department was recently formed at the president's machinery and the Cabinet of Ministers on the basis of already wound up sections on tourism, people's education, culture and international relations, public health, and religious organizations. As a result, the staff of the President's machinery has been reduced on (?30) functionaries. [sentence as heard] Mr. (Sakenbayev) has been appointed the head of the new department.

Security Service School To Be Multidisciplined

LD0409093992 Alma-Ata KAZTAG in Russian
1135 GMT 2 Sep 92

[By KAZTAG correspondent Ivan Zakharchenko: "Staff for the Invisible Front"]

[Text] [no dateline as received]—Since 1974, there have been advanced courses run in Alma-Ata for the KGB and now for the Committee of National Security. Now there are not only people from Kazakhstan studying there, but also envoys from the Russian Federation and Kyrgyzstan, sent by special agreement.

In accordance with the law on bodies of national security, the work of the bodies has become more open to the public. Convincing evidence of this is the presence of a journalist, for the first time in the history of this establishment, at a celebratory meeting held on 1 September, devoted to the beginning of the new academic year. It was opened by Major General Toktorkan Nurakhmetov, the chief of advanced courses and a people's deputy. Having welcomed veteran Cheka officers present in the hall, he gave assurance that the continuers of their cause will ensure reliable security for sovereign Kazakhstan and strengthen friendship and mutual cooperation with the peoples of the CIS.

Speeches by retired Lieutenant General Vasilii Shevchenko, Colonel Boris Dobryshkin, Cadet Amanzhol Urzabayev, and others were united by a single thought: the normal development of any state is impossible without a precisely organized system of staff training, and advanced courses make a discernible contribution to this process. A high quality educational and material foundation and highly qualified command and teaching staff allow the security bodies, which are one of the guarantees of the inviolability of our young state, to fill their ranks with quality staff. In the near future this educational establishment will receive the status of a special multidisciplinary institute.

Tajikistan

President Affirms Control Over Government

PM0309221192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
4 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with President Rakhman Nabyev by Aleksandra Lugovskaya in Dushanbe on 3 September: "R. Nabyev: I Remain President of Tajikistan"]

[Text] [Lugovskaya] Mr. President, my first question is: Are you president of Tajikistan at this moment?

[Nabyev] Yes, but my resignation is being demanded. If my resignation would stabilize the republic, if all formations were to lay their arms down, and if not a single shot were fired after my resignation, I would agree to it. I remain president of the republic. I am in complete control of the situation and am in communication with all the regions, ministries, and departments.

[Lugovskaya] Why do you reject the Supreme Soviet Presidium's proposal for a meeting?

[Nabyev] Yesterday, 2 September, I met with the chairman of the Supreme Soviet and asked for an emergency session to be convened at which all the problems of Tajikistan could be discussed. I am likewise ready to speak and answer all deputies' questions. The session is scheduled for 4 September, but the situation in Dushanbe remains dangerous, complicated, and difficult to control.

[Lugovskaya] Why did no official except you, who described the seizure of the presidential residence and the cabinet building as an attempted coup d'etat, condemn this action?

[Nabyev] No one will ever do that. That would require courage. Something else disturbs me—the statement made to President Yeltsin by the Tajikistan First Deputy Premier D. Karimov. I cannot imagine Tajikistan cutting its links with Russia. We are so bound to Russia and the other CIS countries. I put the republic's present economic and political situation down to the constant attempts to sever our links with CIS countries.

[Lugovskaya] The armed groups holding the presidential residence describe themselves as representatives of the people. What do you think of that characterization, Mr. President?

[Nabyev] I do not deny they belong to the people, but the Tajik people are almost 6 million strong.

[Lugovskaya] What will you do if the situation does not change?

[Nabyev] It is necessary to wait for the situation to change in favor of the people. The opposition had the opportunity to help the people when it won seats in parliament.

[Lugovskaya] At the rallies held near the residence you are accused of having failed over several months to settle the conflict in Kurgan-Tyube. What is your response?

[Nabiyev] My supporters are not going to seize the residence, they are not the opposition, right? The opposition blames me for everything.

[Lugovskaya] Why during the crisis, from 31 August on, have you not once appeared on national television or issued a statement to the newspapers?

[Nabiyev] I am not allowed to. Do you really not understand? I am not given the opportunity to appear, because the radio and television are in the hands of the opposition.

[Lugovskaya] You are criticized for going into hiding....

[Nabiyev] My residence has been seized by armed men; I am not allowed to work in the Supreme Soviet. Where, in your opinion, should the president be? Whoever wants to meet with me will find me. I continue to perform my duties as president.

[Lugovskaya] It is claimed that you are permanently in the military garrison. Is that so?

[Nabiyev] No. I am entitled to be there or any other place. Today I am in Dushanbe, tomorrow I could be in Kulyaba or somewhere else. You will appreciate, this is my home! However, I will tell you that the opposition has created a special squad to snatch the president.

[Lugovskaya] Whose information is that?

[Nabiyev] It is very reliable information.

[Lugovskaya] And your personal forecast?

[Nabiyev] I have already said that an emergency session of the Supreme Soviet is scheduled for 4 September. The opposition, in particular the Islamic Revival Party, does not hide the fact that it wants to create an Islamic state here. However, it is not for the parties to decide what kind of state there should be. That has to be decided by the people.

Yeltsin Telephones Support for Nabiyev

LD0309205892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostandino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 3 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Dzhamshed Karimov, first deputy prime minister of the Tajikistan Government, has confirmed that President Rakhman Nabiyev is on the territory of one of the military units of Russia's 201st Motorized Infantry Division in Dushanbe. He also reported that President Yeltsin, in a telephone conversation with Nabiyev, said that he supports the legally elected president of Tajikistan, the NEGA agency reports.

Karimov Demands No Russian Interference

LD0309195992 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Tajik Deputy Prime Minister Dzhamshed Karimov sent a letter today to Russian President Boris Yeltsin that states the following:

The government of the Republic of Tajikistan states that the political and economic situation of the republic is extremely grave, and Tajikistan is on the verge of a prolonged civil war. President Nabiyev has practically lost the power to rule the government and is not performing the duties assigned to him; namely protecting the rights and freedoms of Tajik citizens. This inability on his part to rule the government has led to the martyrdom of thousands of innocent people in the republic. I stress that no other citizen of non-Tajik nationality has suffered in the course of armed clashes in the republic. During these grave days—the days which will settle the fate of Tajikistan—the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the government of Tajikistan are being forced to shoulder the burden of finding solutions to the myriad problems concerning the economic and political situation in the republic.

We demand that the Russian Armed Forces not intervene in the internal affairs of sovereign Tajikistan and that they not evaluate events in Tajikistan with self-interest. The fate of President Nabiyev will be solved by constitutional means.

President's Office Claims 'Attempted Coup'

LD0309201292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Now for a detailed report on the development of events in Tajikistan. It was filed by our correspondent, Aleksandr Rebinok.

The office of Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev has issued a statement describing the situation in the republic as an attempted coup. However, republican radio today broadcast a statement in which the Tajik Government said that President Rakhman Nabiyev has removed himself from the administration of the republic—where over 1,000 people have been killed, 1,500 have been wounded, and where approximately 15,000 have become refugees. These casualty figures are approximate. Nobody is giving any precise figures at the moment.

Not a single representative of the Russian-speaking community has died in Tajikistan during this time, our correspondent reports. The statement issued by the republican government adds that by his actions, President Rakhman Nabiyev is propelling the nation toward an inter-ethnic conflict. As a result of this, the president's office expresses no confidence in Rakhman Nabiyev. His fate will be decided at a Supreme Soviet meeting to be held on 4 September.

The situation in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast in southern Tajikistan continues to be complex. There was more shooting last night. It continued throughout the day. Urban transport is not functioning. People are staying away from work.

Paper Views Developments Around Nabiyeu

MK0409085992 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Sep 92 p 1

[Report by Oleg Panfilov under the "Tajikistan" rubric: "Are the Ministers Waiting for the President to Announce His Resignation?"]

[Text] According to information received from a senior staffer of the Committee for National Security [KNB], President Nabiyeu was in the Dushanbe garrison yesterday and was being protected by a personal protection subunit composed of Committee for National Security staffers and a reconnaissance company from the 201st motorized rifle division.

The buildings of the residence of the president and the Cabinet of Ministers are completely controlled by people who seized them on 31 August. There are many weapons inside the building, and grenade launchers are visible in the windows. There are about 20 hostages in the basement.

Ministers and other cabinet officials seized earlier have been freed, and yesterday the full body of the Cabinet of Ministers and Supreme Council Presidium gathered at the governmental dacha. They were awaiting the arrival of President Nabiyeu in order to present him with all the conditions been laid down by the people who seized the residence. It is known that on the morning of 2 September, Supreme Council representative Akbarsho Iskanderov had a meeting with President Nabiyeu—nothing is known of its contents.

All members of the Cabinet of Ministers have already written statements in which they demand the resignation of President Nabiyeu. In the city, rumors are spreading about the alleged suicide in Khodzhen of former Dushanbe Mayor Maksuda Ikromov, arrested on 6 March on the authority of recently killed republic general prosecutor Nurullo Khuvaydulloyev.

Opposition Supporters Release Hostages

LD0409122192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The NEGA news agency has been informed at the Tajik Embassy in Moscow that hostages taken by opposition supporters during the Dushanbe events were released at 1100 today.

Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyeu is in one of his residences and is working to normalize the situation in the republic. Now, as this news bulletin is on the air, an emergency session of the Tajik Supreme Soviet should

open in Dushanbe. It will decide the fate of the president and develop ways to solve the republic's internal political crisis.

IZVESTIYA Outlines Problems Facing Presidium

PM0409105992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Sep 92 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Report by Aleksandr Karpov: "Just One Thing Is Required of Tajik President—His Resignation"]

[Text] Dushanbe—The Republic of Tajikistan Supreme Soviet Presidium has scheduled an emergency parliament session sitting for 4 September.

The agenda has not been announced but it is already perfectly obvious what it will discuss. The power crisis in the republic has reached a new high, and today it is connected primarily with the unsuccessful rule of the present Tajik administration, of which Rakhman Nabiyeu was appointed head exactly nine months ago as a result of the first nationwide elections. This is not the first time this problem has been submitted for discussion by parliament. About three weeks ago, at its last session, the republic's Supreme Soviet subjected the activity of the president and his team to fairly sharp criticism. However, describing it as irresponsible and incompetent, the deputies nonetheless gave R. Nabiyeu a chance of proving his soundness in resolving the republic's difficult problems.

The main problem today is the settlement of the fratricidal conflicts in Kurgan-Tyube and Kulyab oblasts. The president did not manage to take advantage of this opportunity, and the events of recent days in Dushanbe have raised, with unprecedented keenness, the question of removing Rakhman Nabiyeu from the post of head of state. Today this is being demanded not only by representatives of the "third power" who seized the presidential palace on the last day of August and not only by the bloc of opposition political parties and movements, but also by members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and government leaders. Serious complaints against R. Nabiyeu were made by Abdurashid Alimov, the president's adviser for sociopolitical problems, in his 2 September speech on local television.

What will the forthcoming session decide? It looks as though the present political circumstances do not give the right to make compromises. Actually, observers today are worried by the question of how the sitting will proceed in general. Journalists now working in Dushanbe are essentially working under the conditions of a heavy information blockade. It is extraordinarily difficult to get reliable information about what is happening. Nonetheless, it is known for certain that on 2 September members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Cabinet of Ministers spent all day trying to meet with R. Nabiyeu to discuss the situation which has taken shape. However, although they waited until far into the night, the president did not appear for a conference. The story is being vigorously put about that he is on the territory of

the Dushanbe military garrison. Attempts to check the story have not succeeded, but if it is true, the question arises: Why does the president need such a powerful guard if, as representatives of the most diverse political orientations claim, nothing and no one is threatening him and he is only being required to do one thing—resign?

Feelings around the Tajik president attest to the readiness of the most diverse strata of the republic's population for radical changes in the top power structures. However, it should be noted that it is a case only of legal, constitutional means. That is what was stressed in an official letter to Russian President Boris Yeltsin by the Tajikistan Supreme Soviet Presidium and Government, stating their lack of confidence in R. Nabiyeu. The letter emphasizes, in particular, that despite the complex political situation in the republic, there is no need now to introduce "blue helmets" subunits into Tajikistan.

Information is still sparse about the leading structures of the "third power" which on 2 September, released from custody, all the responsible workers of the government apparatus who had previously been taken hostage. It has become known that there is a "committee of 13" whose members do not yet want to meet with journalists or make any public statements.

On the whole, the situation in Dushanbe is normal. Enterprises and transport are operating. It is true that Russian and Uzbek television channels have been turned off. The reasons are being ascertained.

Deputies Urged To Attend

LD0409105792 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Tajik 1000 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Unattributed statement read by announcer]

[Text] [Words indistinct] the organs for the protection of law have been paralyzed, and if there should be any (?trouble) in any place, the first persons to flee the trouble will be [word indistinct]. Can such a situation be [word indistinct]? In our opinion the time has come for the representatives of the people of Tajikistan to place personal interests, relatives, and localism to one side and to think about the future, the fate of the suffering Tajik people. The free and independent state of the Tajiks that is standing up after 1,000 years is on the verge of destruction. The fate of the state of Tajikistan at this moment is, however, [words indistinct].

To further aggravate the situation in the republic, a number of politicians of [word indistinct] are striving by all means, to stop the convening of the scheduled session of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan. According to reports, Safarali Kendzhayev, former chairman of the Supreme Soviet and [word indistinct], a person unknown to us, are traveling from rayon to rayon in Leninabad Oblast (?telling) deputies not to go to Dushanbe or to the session. As a result, a large number of the deputies have not yet come to Dushanbe and the session has still not been convened. We

understand that at this fateful stage, the esteemed deputies [words indistinct] will not ignore the fate of the people and the state of Tajikistan. Thus, the [words indistinct] the fratricidal war and Rakhman Nabiyeu not being able to come out are a reality. The means for tackling the situation should, therefore, be found in [word indistinct]. The esteemed deputies hopefully will attend the scheduled session and find ways of relieving the Republic from [words indistinct].

Session Postponed to 5 Sep

LD0409122492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1202 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By KHOVAR correspondent Valeriy Zhukov for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe, 4 Sep—Forecasts that the session of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan will not take place today for lack of a quorum of deputies have been confirmed.

It was announced at the Supreme Soviet press center to the numerous local and foreign journalists awaiting the start of the parliament's work that only 80 deputies had registered by 1500. The session has been postponed until tomorrow. [ITAR-TASS in Russian at 0926 GMT on 4 September in a similar report adds: "According to the parliamentary rules, 154 deputies need to be present for the session to open...There are no representatives from the largest oblast - Leninabad Oblast. The deputies from Kulyab Oblast have not arrived. Possibilities are being sought for parliamentarians from Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, where skirmishes between opposing groups are continuing, to be brought in."]

[INTERFAX in English at 1317 GMT on 4 September in a similar report adds: "According to the preliminary agenda the session which was announced to be a closed one was supposed to consider an issue on confidence in President Rakhman Nabiyeu...Meanwhile in his interview with IF the head of the Muslim Tajik clergy Kazi Akhbar Turadzhonzoda expressed his doubt in respect to any positive results of the session. He believes that there is no potential candidate for the post of the head of the republic. According to Kazi, there was no such 'a bad situation' in the republic as it is now. Turadzhonzoda admitted that the process of settlement the [as received] situation in Tajikistan 'mainly depends on the fact what position will occupy the neighboring countries, in particular, Uzbekistan and Russia'.")]

Parliamentary speaker Akbarsho Iskandarov is expected to give a news conference at 1700.

Islamic Rebirth Party Calls for Nabiyeu Removal

LD0309194492 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Tajik 1700 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Statement issued by Hemmatzoda, president of the Islamic Rebirth Party of Tajikistan, in Dushanbe on 3 September—read by announcer]

[Text] For several months now our beloved republic has been stained with blood. There is not a single day when the blood of innocent people is not shed in some regions of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast as a result of aggression and attacks by Nabiyeu's armed criminals. Tens of thousands of refugees, thousands of martyrs and wounded, thousands of orphaned children, suffering mothers and widows, ruined and plundered villages and lost fields—these are all the results of the fratricidal war which Nabiyeu organized in order to prolong his baseless government by a few months.

It has become obvious and clear to every sound-minded person that every day the president remains in power will be a tragedy and calamity for the republic. In the 15th session of the Supreme Soviet, which was convened to stabilize the political situation in the republic, the people's deputies ought to have given serious attention to this issue and to have ended the fratricidal war. However, the majority of deputies [words indistinct] put their region's interests above the pains of the nation. In accordance with the resolution of the Supreme Soviet, the president ought to have normalized the situation within two months. Following the Supreme Soviet session, not only did the president not normalize the situation; conversely, his visit [to Kurgan-Tyube] by a Russian military helicopter and his meeting with one of Russia's military units stationed in Kurgan-Tyube, further aggravated the situation. Nabiyeu did not even try to meet the people—how can he look at the people? He knows very well that he himself is the cause of all suffering and bloodshed. In his pre-election meetings and speeches, he said he relies on his people. However, we can see today that he only relies on the army of an alien country. Even if he could, he would use it against his own people.

Several days ago he left the people and the [word indistinct] and he has taken refuge in a Russian military garrison. With this state of affairs, does he have the moral right to head the sovereign state of Tajikistan? It has now become obvious to all those people who were, until today, supporters of Nabiyeu that the president has disgraced all Tajiks and their statehood throughout the world. We believe that the noble people of Khujand [Nabiyeu's home town] are also unhappy with this state of affairs. This is because such an unworthy person also brings shame on them. [Nabiyeu] even declared his opposition to the convocation of the World Congress of Tajiks—which was supposed to be held in the capital of the state of Tajiks—and its independence celebrations, and he is not allowing this festival to be held. How can the first independent state of Tajikistan, with such a leader, defend the rights of the world's Tajiks, when the Tajiks in their own home and homeland are engaged in a fratricidal war at the initiative of their leader?

The Islamic Rebirth Party of Tajikistan requests all the noble people of Tajikistan, in particular the people's deputies, to support the statement of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Cabinet of Ministers in such a sensitive and fateful situation. Otherwise, Tajikistan faces the

danger of disintegration as a state. We, on our part, will not hesitate from doing whatever we can. We are confident that with the removal of the main cause the situation will return to normal in the republic.

[Signed] Hemmatzada, president of the Islamic Rebirth Party of Tajikistan

Muslim Leader Calls for Tolerance Among Groups

LD0409065192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0010 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow, September 4 (ITAR-TASS)—“We must not allow the desire for vengeance to embitter us”, the leader of Tajikistan's Muslims, Kazikolon Khadzhi Akbar Turadzhonzade, has said in an interview in today's edition of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. “For if we do,” he believes, “we shall find no way out of the existing situation. Maximum restraint and tolerance is required of all of us during these days.” Turadzhonzade is referring here to rival groups' continued armed clashes in the republic, which have affected religious affairs. In Kulyab oblast, for example, mosques have been partitioned by believers, which has been accompanied “by the expulsion of our supporters at gunpoint.” However, “Such confrontation must not be allowed to happen. There are no grounds for it. To be more precise—we are all Muslims, of the Sunni persuasion of the Khanafit trend.” “There is no schism within the faith,” Khadzhi Akbar Turadzhonzade continued. “It remains as one. The schism is within the board and its administration only.” He commented: “Our republic is in such need of peace and calm. During the May events in Dushanbe, leaders of the republic's clergy met Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyeu. An unusually harsh conversation was held, and it was demanded that CIS joint armed forces separate the protagonists.”

Intensified Fighting in South; Casualties Reported

LD0409130192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino
Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT
4 Sep 92

[From the “Novosti” newscast]

[Text] AP reports that battles are intensifying in the south of Tajikistan, where troops loyal to Nabiyeu are conducting military operations against various opposition groupings. Local sources are quoted as saying that there are casualties.

An emergency meeting of the Republic Supreme Soviet has opened [as heard] in Dushanbe. The question of the sociopolitical situation in Dushanbe and Tajikistan has been put forward for discussion. Agencies report that the president's resignation is being demanded even by the people closest to him. I would remind you that President Nabiyeu was the last of Leonid Brezhnev's loyal colleagues, who, after the collapse of the USSR, managed to come to power again.

[Telephone report by correspondent M. Nikulin] The parliament is to discuss once again the sociopolitical situation in Tajikistan for, I think, the fifth time this year. The mass media is reporting that the president of the Republic of Tajikistan has disappeared from the Republic, but according to reliable information which I possess, he is in Dushanbe.

Alarming reports have come in from the oblast center of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. A clash has occurred there again between opposing groupings. The clash took place in the center of the town where two rallies were being held simultaneously—one by presidential supporters and one by the opposition.

Dushanbe is calm at present. The city is living its normal life. In spite of everything, the Republic is preparing to host the world forum of Tajiks on 9 September. It is timed to celebrate Tajikistan's independence day.

CIS Garrison Besieged

LD0409132692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1253 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe September 4 TASS—Bloody clashes between supporters of the president and his opposition have continued for the third day in Kurgan-Tyube, Tajikistan. According to local radio, the city is paralysed as transport ground to a halt, industrial enterprises, schools and shops stay closed. City-dwellers, mainly senior citizens, women and children are being hastily evacuated.

As was reported, the armed conflict was provoked by an unknown armed group during two alternative rallies, one of them was organized by president's supporters who arrived from Kulyab. On Thursday [3 September] residential quarters of the city came under massive attack from a grenade launcher, both factions use military hardware, including armoured personnel carriers. A hotel and several cultural establishments were damaged.

The local garrison of the CIS motorized rifle regiment is practically sieged. The mission of representatives of the republican authorities who arrived in the conflict zone on Thursday has failed to yield positive results. "OMON" [special purpose military detachment] anti-riot troops, deployed here as a disengagement force, are too small to be able to stop the conflict.

According to official information obtained by radio correspondents from law-enforcement agencies, the death toll has reached 30 people. According to refugees and eye-witnesses, at least a hundred people were killed. Both sides appear to be determined to fight on and have no inclination to lay down arms, triggering a fresh flood of refugees from Kurgan-Tyube and adjacent regions.

In the meantime, a session of the Supreme Soviet which was supposed to look at the situation in Dushanbe and the conflict zone, has not begun yet due to a lack of

quorum. Deputies from two largest regions of the republic, Kulyab and Leninabad, have not arrived.

Government Claims Sufficient Food Reserves

LD0309203792 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Tajik 1700 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Rumors have spread recently throughout Dushanbe and some rayons of the republic alleging that foodstuffs and bread reserves are sufficient only for two or three days. The government of the Republic of Tajikistan states with full authority that such rumors are baseless and being spread by people with malicious aims. Sufficient reserves of flour and grain exist in the republic.

A Cabinet of Ministers session today reviewed this issue and other economic and social issues. The ministries of Trade and Material Resources and Transport, the state and [words indistinct] companies of bread and fuel, and the executive committee of the city of Dushanbe were instructed to make efforts to provide the population with bread, flour, and petroleum products and take (?urgent) measures. Contrary to false rumors, real possibilities exist to perform all these tasks.

The daily needs of Dushanbe's residents for bread is between 80 to 85 tonnes on average. However, on 1 September alone, over 126 tonnes of bread were sold. In addition, all measures will be taken to supply flour and grain in accordance with existing contracts to oblasts, rayons, and outlying areas.

Turkmenistan

Niyazov on Border Agreement With Russia

OW3108183592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1646 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Turkmenistan and Russia "have entered a new period in their relations. They are now two sovereign states, two equal partners," Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov said in an interview with the TURKMEN PRESS NEWS AGENCY. By signing documents on friendship and cooperation the two states, he believes, have shown a high degree of mutual trust.

Commenting on the Russian-Turkmen border protection agreement signed in Moscow on August 27, Niyazov said, "Both sides admitted that the Turkmen border troops which include Russian citizens ensure the security of both Turkmenistan and Russia.... Ensuring the security of the Turkmen border is becoming a component part of the security doctrine of Russia. This means that the interests of both states coincide, and we shall combine our efforts to keep the Turkmen border troops in good form." He expressed support for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's opinion that "relations between Russia and Turkmenistan

can only be expanded and strengthened but they cannot change." "Openness, sincerity, readiness to consider any ideas aimed at raising people's living standards, and ensuring peace and security on the basis of coordinated efforts made by the world community via well-tested UN mechanisms" are the basic principles of Turkmenistan's foreign policy, Niyazov said. The republic wants lasting, equal and mutually beneficial relations with all former Soviet republics, and is also going to continue its cooperation with Turkey, Iran, the USA, China, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Japan, and West European countries. "Our policy will henceforth be free from any opportunistic and ideological considerations," Niyazov emphasized.

Economics Center Instituted, Director Noted

OW0309225892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1745 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Saparmurad Niyazov of Turkmenistan has instituted a research center of economics under the national Cabinet. The Center's Director, a leading presidential and government expert, Djuma Bairamov has told INTERFAX about the Center's objectives.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: The 55-year-old economist describes himself as a disciple of the Moscow and Novosibirsk schools of economics. In 1960 Djuma Bairamov was graduated from the Moscow Institute of Economics where he attended classes in an experimental men-only group. 13 of the 24 students of the exclusive group, including Djuma Bairamov, eventually received the highest university degree in their field. Dr Bairamov is a co-author of the 500 Day program of the Gorbachev Administration. He says he is making use of what is known as the Russian mid-term program, co-authored by Yevgeni Yassin and Yegor Gaydar, to draw up a blueprint for Turkmenistan's development in the next three years.

Dr Bairamov has told a reporter for INTERFAX that although the statute for the new think tank remains to be drawn up, President Niyazov has already outlined a few of its objectives. The President was interested in the smooth introduction of free market relations and moves to reduce Turkmenistan's economic dependence on other countries, the economist said, while remaining fully committed to continued cooperation with Russia. Dr Bairamov said 64 percent of Turkmenistan's economic turnover fell on Russia and Ukraine.

The research center under the national Cabinet would analyze, offer expert advice on and assess the potential of the government-sponsored blueprints for economic reform and legal bills. It would see whether the government programs tie in with the legislation of other countries.

In addition, the center would be drawing up comprehensive forecasts for Turkmenistan's economic development. It would focus on the recommendations for the transfer of state-owned property to private hands. Dr Bairamov felt the conversion of state-owned enterprises into share-holding societies would make the first stage of the economic reform. He described the introduction of private ownership on land as the most complicated aspect of the reform, because of the acute shortage of water resources in his republic. Dr Bairamov objected to the high-gear dismantling of collective farms. Instead, he favored the gradual revival of cooperation in agriculture. Once they recalled the ABC of cooperation, he said, Turkmenistan's collective farms would be doing well under free market relations.

Dr Bairamov was convinced the state must keep controlling the oil, gas and a few other strategically important industries.

He favored the Rouble as the only monetary unit of the republics on formerly Soviet territory. For the Rouble to remain the only monetary unit, the newly independent republics must act to strengthen it and pursue coordinated price policies. And, should their effort fall though, they must still lean on the Rouble as their change unit.

The head of the new think tank is hopeful about prospects for beneficial contacts between his and neighboring republics although he admits that the underdeveloped infrastructure at times reduces the geographic advantages of regional cooperation to nothing.

Azerbaijan**Speaker: Parliament Dissolution Not 'State Coup'***LD0409100492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0953 GMT 4 Sep 92*

[Text] Baku August 4 TASS—"The dissolution of the national assembly is not a state coup," said Azeri Parliament Speaker Isa Kamberov, commenting on the situation in parliament in the Baku-based ZERM newspaper on Friday [4 September]. The speaker claims that the present republican parliament is not fully legitimate.

The real reason for the present situation is that some legislators discussing the issue of combining several posts threatened to leave parliament if amendments to the Constitution permitting holding several posts are not approved. They warned that their absence will make the legislature inoperative.

Despite the opinion of these parliamentarians, Gambarov claims in the interview that "only the Azeri president now represents legitimate authority and only his deprivation of power can be regarded as a state coup".

Armenian Transit of Lachin Corridor Blocked*NC0309191992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri
1700 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry's Analytical Information Center has issued the following disclosure:

Operations aimed at removing the Armenian occupationists from Azerbaijani territory continue to be successful. Several areas, including strategically important Kochagot and [name indistinct], were liberated from the ferocious enemy units as a result of the combat operations of the last few days. Clashes are currently taking place in Chldran and (Surkhavend), in Yukhariy Karabakh.

Not trusting the enemy to comply with the cease-fire agreement along the Azerbaijan-Armenia border, our fighters are maintaining their vigilance. The enemy made yet another unsuccessful attempt to send a convoy of trucks loaded with combat equipment through the Lachin corridor last night. Our artillery units destroyed several of the vehicles and forced the convoy to turn back.

Although the situation has become relatively stable, the enemy is using every opportunity to fire on our positions. The Kazakhskiy Rayon territory; the border posts in Kedabekskiy Rayon; the border towns in Kubatlinskiy Rayon, including the rayon center; Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic; and the Badabad locality in Shakhbuzskiy Rayon were fired at from Armenia with various types of arms last night. Kushchy Ayrum and Ferekhly in Kazakhskiy Rayon and the Kanly Kaya locality in Akstafa Rayon were fired on today. The situation in the other areas was peaceful.

Parliament Chief Comments on Armenia, Karabakh*LD0309192492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1830 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep (TASS)—"The war between Armenia and Azerbaijan will end before the year is out but the tackling of the Karabakh problem may be dragged out for a long time ahead," Azerbaijani Parliament Chief Isa Gambarov told a news conference in Baku today.

The parliament speaker described the Alma-Ata agreement as a premature one. "Before signing a ceasefire agreement, it was necessary to prepare a concrete mechanism to implement it, and not the other way round," he said.

Nevertheless, Gambarov reaffirmed the Azerbaijani leadership's commitment to a peaceful settlement of the conflict and expressed hope for a positive outcome of Armenian-Azerbaijani talks that began today and are being held in the presence of observers from Kazakhstan.

Analysts in Baku believe that "a success of this meeting will depend in many respects on how reasonably Armenia, which is inclined to apply the terms of the Alma-Ata memorandum to the upper Karabakh, will approach a solution to the problem and the actual situation in the region+.

"The Armenian side's attempt to closely link peace on the border between the two republics with a ceasefire in Karabakh and invite the leaders of the Karabakh secessionist movement as one of negotiating parties questions a positive outcome of the efforts of the sides concerned," analysts believe. In any case, as the foreign minister stated, Azerbaijan regards a solution to the Karabakh issue exclusively as its own internal affair.

According to reports from Yerevan, the district centre of Martuni, Chartar village (the same area of Nagorno-Karabakh) and Mekhtishen village in Askeran district of Nagorno-Karabakh were again massively shelled from Azerbaijani positions last night. There are casualties. Thereby, it is believed in Yerevan, the ceasefire agreement was again broken by the Azerbaijani side.

"Azerbaijan's actions during the recent period of hostilities can be qualified as genocide against the women and children of Nagorno-Karabakh," Marsel Petrosyan, head of the information and press department of Nagorno-Karabakh, stated in comment on developments in the last ten days of August.

"Over the period, three air raids were made on Stepanakert. As a result of the raids, 17 children and 23 women were killed and 110 sustained heavy splinter-inflicted wounds. Such a policy of state terrorism breeds only hatred, not fear," Petrosyan said.

On the whole, according to estimates by independent observers, a relatively calm situation has set in in the zones of combat on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

Speaker on Mission to Georgia on Call-Up Issue

NC0409145692 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
0550 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 4 September (ASSA-IRADA)—About 600,000 Azeris live today in Georgia, said Isa Gambarov, speaker of the parliament, today at the press-conference.

In the coming few days a large Azeri Government group is to head for Georgia to get acquainted with the state of affairs here. We will never let the events taken place in Armenia repeat. We have certain information, that Azeris living in Georgia are now being drafted to the Army with the following sending to Abkhazia. Surely, if Azeris are citizens of Georgia, they must obey to the laws of this country. But taking into account interethnic character of the conflict, the Georgian Government should make certain concession because Azeris don't want to fight against united Caucasian detachments containing also Muslims. We will settle this issue with Georgia in the soonest time.

Accords To Establish Ties With Russia Ready

NC0409151492 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
0550 GMT 04 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 4 September (ASSA-IRADA)—Azerbaijan stands for establishment of bilateral ties with Russia, Isa Gambarov, speaker of Azeri Parliament told ASSA-IRADA. We are doing a lot to prepare economic, technical and cultural agreements with Russia. In the mid-September these agreement will be ready for signing.

'Caucasian Roundtable' on Regional Issues Opens

NC0409151892 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
1206 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Construction of unique Caucasian home, the issues of political and economic cooperation among Caucasian peoples, the and the ways [as received] for peaceful settlement of the conflicts in the area will be debated at the "Caucasian Roundtable" session to be open in Grozny today. Party and public movement leaders, representatives of clergy from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Dagestan, Abkhazia, Adzaria, Chechen-Ingush and other areas of the Caucasus will participate in this discussion. The Azerbaijan delegation will include Mr. Arif Gadziyev, president's councillor, Sheykh-ul-Islam Pashazade, the chairman of Caucasian Muslim Board and others. The Armenian delegation hasn't arrived to the session. Chechen Republic's President Dzakhar Dudayev hailed the participants of all Caucasian forum, ASSA-IRADA reporter informs from Grozny.

President Praises Egyptian, Mubarak Support

NC0309141892 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
1039 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 03.09.92 (ASSA-IRADA)—During his trip to war zone and meeting there with population Azeri President Abulfaz Elchibey has also touched upon the republic's foreign policy. In this aspect the president especially singled out the role of Egypt and the moral support this friendly Arab country renders to Azerbaijan in the latter's aspiration to build the independent sovereign state. Elchibey also noted with gratitude the fact that it's the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak who gave a true estimation to Karabakh conflict and defined Armenian policy as aggressive and expansionist during his meeting with Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan.

Georgia

Prime Minister Welcomes Moscow Agreement

OW0409103992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1002 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Georgia's Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua declared that the chief result of the Moscow meeting on Abkhazia on September 3 is that "the war has been halted in the interests of the Georgian and Abkhaz peoples alike".

In an interview with journalists in Tbilisi on Friday [4 September], Mr. Sigua welcomed the "guarantee of Georgia's territorial integrity", stipulated in the final document signed at the meeting. In the Premier's words, Georgia's sovereignty in its present borders has been recognized by the Caucasian autonomous republics, too.

Mr. Sigua revealed that in keeping with the accord, Georgian troops would safeguard Georgia's border with Russia, the rail and highways and key installations in Abkhazia. At the same time, Georgia guarantees to the population of Abkhazia all rights, corresponding to international norms.

Mr. Sigua reported that he would go to Abkhazia in two days time to work in a commission on economic reconstruction in the republic.

Abkhaz Negotiator Criticizes Moscow Accord

OW0409103592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1001 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of the Abkhazian Parliament's Commission for Human Rights and Ethnic Relations Yuriy Voronov believes that the final document of the Moscow meeting on Abkhazia testifies to Russia's awareness of the fact that "everything that takes place in the region affects its vital interests, and it must spare no effort to stop the bloodshed in Abkhazia". Mr. Voronov,

an Abkhaz negotiator at the Moscow talks on September 3, has stressed in an interview with IF [INTERFAX] that the final document "contains a number of points, which, if implemented, will solve at least part of the problems".

At the same time, Mr. Voronov disagrees with the assertion that the agreement is short of an assessment of the conflict in Abkhazia, a conflict which the Parliamentarian describes as "genocide". Mr. Voronov criticized the document for its failure to reflect "the Georgian government's mixed reaction to what took place in Abkhazia and wide-spread human rights violations in the republic". He also censured it for omitting a pledge to withdraw the Georgian troops from Abkhazia in full.

Mr. Voronov emphasized that "some ambiguities" in the agreement might trigger off some sorts of provocations.

Armistice Agreement Observed in Sukhumi

*LD0309134992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1254 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi September 3 TASS—It is quiet in the capital of Abkhazia today after three weeks of fighting. This is due to the armistice agreement reached by the conflicting sides the day before. It was learned from the press bureau of the Georgian headquarters in Sukhumi that in keeping with the terms of the accord, the Georgians have today transferred prisoners and bodies of killed combatants to the Abkhazian side.

At the same time, reports from Sukhumi indicate that there are still cases of marauding and other illegal actions in the Abkhazian capital.

It is also reported that two colonels, commanding the conflicting troops—Georgiy Karkarashvili and Boris Kakalia—intend to observe the terms of the armistice strictly irrespective of the results of the Moscow meeting, where Boris Yeltsin, Eduard Shevardnadze, Vladislav Ardzinba, and heads of the North Caucasian republics of Russia are today discussing ways to settle the conflict in Abkhazia. In any case, the commanders of the Georgian and Abkhazian guards have agreed to hold a personal meeting tomorrow in order to strengthen the already achieved agreements.

Local analysts note that the efforts of the Georgian side to switch the conflict in Abkhazia to civilised rails lack coordination. For instance, Vice Chairman of the Georgian State Council Dzhaba Ioseliani told the council's latest meeting that he was not informed in advance about the Sochi talks between Georgian Defence Minister Tengiz Kitovani and chairman of the Abkhazian parliament Vladislav Ardzinba, which were held with the mediation of Sergey Shoygu, chairman of the Russian state committee for emergency situations.

Sukhumi, Gagra Situation 'Relatively Quiet'

*OW0309162792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1603 GMT 3 Sep 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] It was relatively quiet Thursday [3 September] in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone, the commandant's offices of the cities Sukhumi and Gagra informed INTERFAX. The agreement reached Wednesday [2 September] for a cease-fire until September 4 is being fully observed. Only one incident occurred near Gagra. According to the city's deputy commandant, Gizo Tshipiani, the Abkhazians attacked a post of Georgian State Committee troops Thursday morning leaving one Georgian serviceman killed and two wounded. In Sukhumi only unconnected gunshots were heard.

It was reported in Sukhumi that the commanders of Georgian and Abkhazian troops in the conflict zone, Georgiy Karkarashvili and Viktor Kakaliya, announced that despite the results of negotiations in Moscow, they will meet on Friday to discuss prolonging the truce.

In accordance with Wednesday's agreement, the first group of military prisoners was exchanged Thursday morning at the Gumista river. The exchange will not include Georgian-held representatives of the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples.

The commandant's offices of Sukhumi and Gagra denied reports by various media organizations that Abkhazians had taken hostages from among the peaceful residents of the Gudauti region.

According to a Russian Foreign Ministry statement, the situation on the Russian-Abkhazian border has not worsened in recent days. Refugees from Abkhazia continue to arrive in Krasnodar. 130 people in three buses passed through the border check-point in Psou September 2. According to the press center, 49,339 people have left Abkhazia since the conflict began.

'Continued Fighting' Reported in Abkhazia

*LD0409150792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Sep 92*

[Text] Despite reports from news agencies about calm in Abkhazia, our correspondent Khristiyan Vzhanye tells of continued fighting. He links this in many ways with the fact that the Abkhaz public is dissatisfied with the outcome of the Moscow meeting.

[Vzhanye] The final document of the Moscow meeting met with a negative reaction in Abkhazia. Parliamentarians, the military leadership and volunteer militia, the troops themselves, and the people are unhappy about individual points, mainly because two fundamental questions were not solved in Moscow—the unconditional withdrawal of the Georgian troops that have destabilized the situation in the republic and the assessment of the activities of the Georgian leadership. At the

same time, parliamentarians have noted with satisfaction the decision to send an inspection team to the republic and to resume the activities of the lawful power bodies in Abkhazia.

Meanwhile, the public has formed a solid opinion about a deal between Yeltsin and Shevardnadze. In this connection, it is the unification of the Caucasus that can be the only guarantee of the self-preservation of the Abkhazian national identity and protection of its statehood. This opinion was finally reached only after yesterday's Moscow meeting. But the fighting goes on. The State Council has transferred 15 barges with armored equipment to Gagra. Forty Russian military transport planes carrying assault troops landed in Gudauta today. No one knows the purpose of the flight. The towns of Akvarcheli and Gudauta are blockaded and, in addition, are under a communications blockade from other parts of the republic.

Mountain Peoples Leader on Abkhazia Conflict

PM0209152192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 2 Sep 92 p 3

[Report by Nikolay Astashkin: "Sending of CCMP Volunteers Suspended"]

[Text] Our correspondent managed to meet with Confederation of Caucasus Mountain Peoples [CCMP] President Mussa Shanibov and to ask several questions.

"What is now happening in Abkhazia," M. Shanibov declared, "has just one name—genocide. Therefore we cannot abandon the Abkhazians in their misfortune, nor, incidentally, the other peoples belonging to the CCMP."

[Astashkin] A question arises in this connection: What ideas does the Confederation preach?

[Shanibov] Above all, the idea of the need for small peoples to unite. Yes, the mountains of the Caucasus have broken up linguistically the people who live here, but from Sukhumi to Makhachkala they are a single people, who have finally realized that they can only survive by uniting. Uniting politically, economically, and ethnically. This is the first point. Second, we seek to unite on the principles of the Confederation, which, according to our charter, envisages that each people cedes to the Confederation as many powers as it wishes. Therefore the decisions of the CCMP are of an advisory nature for national public movements and certainly not of a directive nature. Third, the Confederation seeks to play the role of a guarantor of stability in the North Caucasus region.

[Astashkin] Along which channels do weapons come into the hands of volunteers?

[Shanibov] The Abkhazians themselves in fact buy weapons with money handed over by the Confederation. This is the first point. Second, we have special people who buy weapons in various parts of the Commonwealth. [Shanibov ends]

Speaking about the present military structure of the CCMP, Mussa Shanibov remarked that the Confederation has tried to create three battalions: one in Abkhazia and two in Chechnya. Because of a number of circumstances, however, it has not been possible to form the battalions properly. Therefore the Confederation has turned to volunteers at the height of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict. In all the capitals of the republics which belong to the CCMP there are staffs where volunteers are registered.

Answering a question about the principle of manning voluntary detachments, the CCMP president said that the selection of volunteers is very strict. The chief criteria are military experience and the family's consent, for, according to custom in the Caucasus, a family's only son must not be recruited.

In conclusion Mussa Shanibov emphasized that, if the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict becomes exacerbated, the Confederation will place several thousand volunteers under arms. Something else also should not be forgotten, Shanibov said: If a partisan war gets under way under the conditions in the Caucasus, it will have no winners.

Shevardnadze Interviewed on October Elections

OW0309182192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1738 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Second part of interview with Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the State Council, by unidentified correspondent; place, date not given; compiled by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Corr.: What is the Georgian leadership going to do to ensure maximum freedom for political parties in their campaigns before the parliamentary election scheduled for this October?

Eduard Shevardnadze: We are going to stick to the law and to principles accepted in the entire civilized world.

Corr.: What about Round Table-Free Georgia, the former parliamentary bloc which supported ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia? Will that be able to propose any candidates?

E.S.: So far the bloc has not in any way stated its intention to take part in the election. I'm not sure if it still exists in its former shape. As far as I know, some of the parties which used to form it, such as the Monarchist Party or the Traditionalist Union, will have their candidates. Anyone who does not violate the law by his political activity will be allowed to stand in the election.

Corr.: As far as we know, you are going to stand too. Are you planning to become parliament chairman?

E.S.: I've just decided to stand for the post, whereas it's the electorate that plans to give certain posts to certain individuals.

Corr.: You are in favor of parliamentary rule in Georgia. Why do you think that is the best option?

E.S.: Presidency has so much compromised itself in Georgia that nobody even wants to hear about it any more. We'll first have to elect a parliament, and that will decide what is the optimum form of government for the country.

Infantry Replaces Paratroopers in S. Ossetia

OW0309134492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1247 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The replacement of Russian paratroopers with motorized-infantry men in the peace-keeping contingent operating in South Ossetia will be accomplished in September, the peace-keeping force's press service announced. On Thursday [3 September] morning, the first column of paratroopers began to move to North Ossetia.

According to the press center, Russia promised assistance in preparing the troops stationed in South Ossetia for the autumn and winter. It will send in pre-fabricated houses for the peace-keeping patrols, warm clothes and food. The peace-keeping contingent is expected to stay in the conflict zone at least till spring.

On September 6, the term of the contracts signed by most members of the peace-keeping contingent from among Georgians and Ossetians will expire. One fifth of the Ossetian contingent will prolong their contracts. A 500-strong battalion has been formed in Vladikavkaz, the capital of North Ossetia, to replace the Ossetian peace-keepers removed from the region. This battalion consists of residents of the Dzhav region of South Ossetia and the Tskhinvali region.

Gamsakhurdia Supporters Step Up 'Activity'

OW0409133092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1311 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Georgian Interior Ministry's press center informed IF [INTERFAX] that supporters of ex-president Zviad Gamsakhurdia have stepped up their activity in different parts of Georgia.

On Thursday [3 September], an attack was made on the police department of the western city of Zugdidi. The bandits were rebuffed by return fire. An armored personnel carrier of the Georgian guard came under a grenade attack on the river of Inguri, also in the west of Georgia.

In the Kvareli region (eastern Georgia) the government troops are carrying out an operation to eliminate a gang of Zviadists. Out of the 100 members, 12 have been detained, four of them by local residents. The press center reports that all of the detained are Gamsakhurdia's nearest associates. During an interrogation they said that their task was to form a battalion in eastern Georgia and to move to Tbilisi. The Georgian guards have blocked one more gang in eastern Georgia.

On September 3, two privates of the Russian troops who had 12 explosive devices were detained in the port of Poti. They said they were deserters and were moving to Abkhazia to fight against Georgians. They also said that each of them was promised a reward of 30,000 roubles.

Kuwait Establishes Diplomatic Relations

LD0309193792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1320 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Yelistratov]

[Text] Cairo September 3 TASS—Kuwait has officially announced the opening as of today of diplomatic relations with the Republic of Georgia.

According to Saut al-Arab Radio Station, the official statement by the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry said that "the decision was taken proceeding from the desire of the two states and their peoples to develop friendly relations on the basis of principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs".

Kuwait is the first Persian Gulf country to establish diplomatic relations with Georgia.

Estonia

Premier Doubts Baltic Economic Cooperation

LD0309151392 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network
in Estonian 0600 GMT 3 Sep 92

[From the press review]

[Text] Economic cooperation among the Baltic states—as yet nonexistent—may turn out to be impossible, says today's POSTIMEES. According to Prime Minister Tiit Vahi, cooperation among the Baltic states is only possible in the presence of a more or less uniform monetary policy. That means that Latvia and Lithuania must tie their national currencies to convertible currencies, said Vahi. According to him, a tie with both convertible and nonconvertible currencies at the same time would make economic cooperation difficult.

Baltic economic cooperation will be one of the subjects at the meeting of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian prime ministers on 11 September. In addition, it is planned to discuss the customs and visa regime, POSTIMEES says.

Government Favors No Perks for Cabinet, MP's

OW0309123292 Moscow BALTFAX in English
0933 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday [2 September] the Estonian Prime-Minister Tiit Vahi told a Tallinn news conference that his government finds it immoral to give special social guarantees to members of the cabinet and parliament. He said the government decided to set up a working group led by Labor Minister Arvo Kuddo to draft a resolution invalidating two decrees of the presidium of parliament which introduced such privileges.

The government will insist on the inclusion of the draft resolution in the agenda of the last session of parliament, the prime-minister said.

Chairman Holds Talks With Senator Cranston

LD0309113192 Tallinn Radio Estonia
in English 1520 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] The Chairman of Estonia's Supreme Council, Arnold Ruutel, received a senator of the United States, Alan Cranston, yesterday. Senator Cranston has led the U.S. Senate reforms committee [as heard] for a long period. During the conversation, Mr. Ruutel and Senator Cranston discussed Russian troops withdrawal from Estonia and the situation of the Russian minority in Estonia. The chairman of the Estonian parliament reiterated his position on the troop withdrawal question. All mobile and combat units and those stationed in the capital city, Tallinn, should leave during the current year. The rest of the army should leave by no later than

beginning of July 1993. The meeting was attended by the U.S. Ambassador to Estonia Robert C. Frasure.

Defense Adviser Urges Beefing Up Military Ranks

OW0409044092 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1805 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Elmo Priks, advisor to the Estonian Defense Minister, said that in 1993 it will be necessary to increase the number of servicemen in the republic's armed forces to 5,000. Speaking Thursday at a seminar on state military problems, he said that 500 people will serve in the ranks of internal forces, the same number in the rescue service, 2,500 in the border guard and 1,500 in fighting units.

According to Mr. Priks, the budget proposal for 1993 will include expenditures for maintaining that number of servicemen. The Defense Minister's advisor believes that 5,000 soldiers and officers will be enough to patrol the borders and maintain order within the country. The Defense Ministry's main problem in the future will remain supplying [no closing punctuation as received]

Ethnic Russian Deputies Demand Citizens' Rights

Critical of New Parliament

LD0409090992 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network
in Estonian 1400 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] How can the interests of the Russian-speaking population be protected if the new Riigikogu [parliament] fails to do so? This was discussed today in a news conference in Toompea. Over to Ain Saarna.

[Saarna] Seven Russian-speaking Supreme Council deputies held a news conference today at Toompea. I say Russian-speaking deputies because the news conference was conducted in Russian. The conference marked the impending end to the Supreme Council's activities. My impression of what was said was that the last two and one-half years had never happened; there was no substantial change in the deputies' vocabulary or thought processes. Here is a statement by Nikolay Aksinin.

[Begin Aksinin recording in Russian fading into Estonian translation] I think the discontinuation of our mandate is unlawful, inhumane, and nondemocratic. [end recording]

Those at today's news conference think that even though the Supreme Council's activities are ending, they still have a mandate from the people. Indeed, one-third of Estonia's population has been deprived of the right to vote, and somebody has to protect their interests, Nikolay Aksinin said. He opined that veterans of the Great Fatherland War are in a particularly sorry situation.

Sergey Sovetnikov hoped that the Riigikogu will review the citizenship law and that the law on local elections

will also provide the current non-citizens with the right to participate in elections. The Riigikogu should also show initiative in setting up the so-called Russian-speakers' assembly, which should have the right to initiate legislation.

Lebedev was much more specific. He introduced plans for a deputies' council for deputies without a mandate, so to speak. An essential emphasis is planned for activity mediated by international organizations so as to draw attention to the policy that discriminates against minorities in the Republic of Estonia. They plan to issue their own weekly newspaper and to demand air time on television and radio.

It would be naive to think they would not come out with these kinds of initiatives just before the Riigikogu elections. It will be more exciting if candidates in the election begin to use their little gray cells now.

Deputies' Group To Defend Rights of Minorities

OW0409120992 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1044 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] 8 deputies of the Estonian Supreme Soviet declared about creation of an Interregional Council of the Estonian Deputies (ICED).

"Experiencing a moral responsibility for the destinies of their electors who will be deprived of the right to participate in the state system control through their representatives in the State Assembly", the deputies declared that "they will not hand over their deputies' powers to present [as received] and to defend the interests of the people" after the Estonian Supreme Soviet terminates its activity.

One of the members of the group, deputy Vladimir Lebedev, told the journalists that the ICED will be presented at the state level as a representative of "the discriminated and oppressed national minorities in Estonia".

According to Lebedev, the council will publish a social-political weekly in opposition to the right forces and will demand to grant time for broadcasting at the state TV and radio. "If this wish is not fulfilled we shall find other means to broadcast over radio and TV", Lebedev assured.

The authors of the statement confirm that the ICED will act in accordance with the Constitution and Law of the Estonian republic and in compliance with the General declaration of the human rights and other international pacts on human rights.

Underwater Uranium Dump Threatens Environment

PM0309154092 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
in English 3 Sep 92 p 7

[By Julian Isherwood]

[Text] A Soviet underwater uranium waste dump in Estonia is threatening the environment of the Baltic—it is only separated from the open sea by a 10-yard dam, a Swedish newspaper said yesterday.

The report gathered on site by *Sydsvenska Dagbladet*, said that four million tons of uranium ore waste, including 1,200 tons of pure uranium, had been dumped in an artificial lake near the town of Sillamae, 50 miles east of Tallinn, the capital.

Sillamae, which is on the Gulf of Finland, was a closed city until last year because of its apparent importance to the Soviet nuclear industry.

The Sillamae Plant of Chemical and Metal Production, which is still Russian-run, said the Uranium waste was deposited under 15 feet of water in the artificial lake.

"Apart from the uranium there are about 1,000 tons of radium, 500 tons of thorium and a couple of million tons of calcium sulphate, calcium fluoride and ash," the company told the newspaper.

"When it's windy, the lake goes all white. When it's calm it's clear," said Mr. Vladimir Nosov, plant laboratory manager.

He said the waste was more than 20 yards deep and 60 feet above sea level.

"Of course there is increased radioactivity in the sea outside, the dam," Mr. Nosov said. "But some kilometers off the coast, the levels are normal."

Sillamae first attracted publicity in 1990 with reports of a mass case of inexplicable hair-loss and widespread occurrence of allergies in the town of 25,000.

At the time, Soviet authorities denied that environmental causes made 200 people, including an entire high school class, go bald.

The Sillamae complex was opened in the late 1940's, when it was used to extract uranium from local ore. When Sillamae deposits dwindled, East German and Czechoslovakian ore was shipped there for treatment.

*** Border Guard Getting Finnish Patrol Boats**

92P20389A Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT
in Finnish 21 Aug 92 p 5

[Text] In September, the Finnish Border Guard will give Estonia's Border Guard three used and decommissioned Koskelo Class patrol boats. They are the Kaakuiri, Kuikka, and Telkka. All were built at the end of the 1950's, and are 30 meters in overall length. They are to be repainted in the colors of the Estonian Border Guard before being handed over. The Finnish Government reached a final decision about the gift on Thursday [20 August]. At the same time, it was decided that Estonian crews for the craft will be given a week of training in Finland before delivery.

Latvia

Godmanis Describes Upcoming Economic Measures

LD0209170392 Riga Radio Riga Network
in Latvian 0400 GMT 28 Aug 91

[Text] With the beginning of autumn, some changes are awaiting the inhabitants of Latvia. Listen to what Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis said yesterday at a news conference at the Council of Ministers.

[Begin Godmanis recording] After 1 September, we will begin examining income declarations that will begin to take effect from 1 October. This will not include all income declarations, only those from people who need material help.

These declarations will be processed after submission to those departments in charge of pensioners. They will be processed, obviously, by local governments. Here we must also partially solve the question of interaction between the financial inspectorate and the financial department, the bodies responsible for checking the facts. On the basis of these declarations, two resolutions will be adopted.

First, that is, that compensation worth 1 billion [currency not specified], provided for in the budget, for energy price increases. It does not, of course, completely cover the price increase 100 percent, that we are not able to (?pay), but it will still make this situation easier for these people.

Second, it will also be the basis for the differentiation of rent. Then we agreed that if rents change after 1 October, then they will change on different scales. That is the one thing.

Second [as heard], local governments have the right to fix a certain difference between their levels and that set by the government. In addition, it is necessary to consider individually each person who really cannot pay.

The very last point is that, taking into account our agreement with the monetary fund, with the cooler weather arriving and the price index changing, for heating, from 1 October a number of things come into effect, for example the new turnover tax, at the rate of 12 percent—only 6 percent for foodstuffs. Import duties will begin. A number of these things will cause prices to rise. That means that automatically, in accordance with the agreement with the monetary fund, we will also have the right to increase the minimum wage, when the index of prices will correspondingly be big enough in comparison with the wage indexes.

These are the two things that must be taken into consideration. The same applies to the price of bread. My [word indistinct] standpoint is such, that we cannot touch the bread price until we are not able to tell what is changing in, so to speak, either minimum wages or additional payments, as we did with 400 rubles last time,

that changes in the price of bread are not permissible. That is my position. [end recording]

Currency Resolution Guarantees Orderly Transfer

LD0209132292 Riga Radio Riga Network
in Latvian 2000 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Text] Opening the scheduled government session, Premier Ivars Godmanis announced that on Monday [31 August] the adoption by the Monetary Reform Committee of the Republic of Latvia of a resolution on guarantees for the transfer to the national currency unit, the lat. This states that the transfer to the lat will be done gradually, with the exchange into lats of all the Latvian rubles in circulation at a unified exchange rate.

This resolution applies to cash and deposits in banks and other credit institutions. The debt and contract obligations expressed in Latvian rubles will be converted into lats according to the rate of exchange that applies to the Latvian ruble. The time and rate for the exchange of money will be determined by a separate resolution by the Monetary Reform Committee. According to Bank of Latvia President Einars Repse, Latvian rubles will be thus funnelled into savings accounts.

Delegation Returns From NATO Consultations

LD0309112292 Riga Radio Riga International
in English 2030 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] A Latvian Defense Ministry delegation has returned from a conference between the Baltic states and the NATO headquarters. The Baltic strategy specialists met with a group of NATO military experts to resume defense consultations started earlier this summer. Issues considered were planning and modernizing of defense operations, control of air space and anti-aircraft defense organization, as well as defense of territorial waters.

A more concrete cooperation and assistance program will be crafted at the NATO headquarters on 10 September. Willingness of the NATO signatories to aid the Baltics is more than evident, said Mr. (?Sipak), the chief Latvian delegate.

Another group of Latvian experts led by Colonel Lilients, the head of the Latvian Defense Headquarters, is scheduled to continue working on these questions in Vilnius.

Defense Council Discusses Security, Withdrawal

OW0109192792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1856 GMT 1 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At discussions at today's Latvian Defence Council session in Riga, particular emphasis was placed on measures against possible internal or external threats to the republic's security, according to Volunteer Corps Chief-of-Staff Girts Kristovskis.

Unofficial sources said that the session also discussed Russia's statement on its readiness to withdraw its armed forces from the Baltic states before October, 1993.

Foreign Minister on Embassy Property Disputes

LD0409112892 Riga Radio Riga Network
in Latvian 0900 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Interview with Foreign Minister Janis Jurkans by Janis Podins on 3 September; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Podins] What will the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme Council try to interrogate you about? What will you say this afternoon to the Presidium of the Supreme Council?

[Jurkans] The Foreign Affairs Commission wants to hear from me about the system of embassies and consulates, about the problems of designating and locating missions, and about financial difficulties linked to these issues. On juridical issues, I must respond to the adoption of the act on (?statutory) rights and Latvia's accession to the act, as well as to the bill on the diplomatic and consular service of the Republic of Latvia.

At 1600, the Presidium will discuss the somewhat scandalous issue of whether we have to give Russia the Ministry of Culture building, which before the war belonged to the Soviet Union. The Supreme Council has adopted a resolution to the effect that all embassies have to be given the property they held before the war. No exception for Russia has been stipulated, so the government, as well as some deputies and people in the commissions, has, during talks with Russia, several times promised that we will apply this law to Russia too and that Russians will be able to work in the Ministry of Culture premises, restoring their embassy there. [passage omitted]

[Podins] Mr. Jurkans, last week, when Russian Ambassador to Latvia Rannikh was visiting Riga, there was much talk of Latvia perhaps giving back the Ministry of Culture building, the former Russian, that is USSR, Embassy, but unfortunately no information has come from the Foreign Ministry as to how to settle the process concerning Latvia's property in France and Switzerland.

[Jurkans] These are incompatible questions. We can speak of the Russian Embassy in Riga and our embassy in Moscow, because according to the conclusions currently drawn by legal experts, nothing belongs to us in Moscow. If we rush to take—how shall I put it—a position, we could lose the embassy in Moscow, and not only the embassy but also everything that was built there by Latvian hands. As far as France and Switzerland are concerned, it would be absolutely absurd to start settling the property issue in Paris and Geneva with Russia. That would mean that Latvia would lose that property or that the settlement of these questions would be delayed for a long time. Agreement has been reached with the governments of both France and Switzerland that we will solve

these problems in bilateral talks, and at the moment there is a Latvian Foreign Ministry official in Switzerland working on this.

[Podins] (?But maybe then you will have to admit) that the question of the Russian Embassy here, the possible building in Riga, and the Latvian Embassy in Moscow, which unfortunately was once the mission of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic—like the missions of many other former Union republics in Moscow—perhaps there are some sort of (?snags), purely in the financial sense, about how much it could cost if we refuse and start quarreling with Russia about these issues.

[Jurkans] Those calculations have not been made. First, I think we will lose politically, because to lose an embassy right now in Moscow, the only disseminator of correct information about the situation in Latvia to the whole former Soviet Union.... [changes thought] I think it must be understood how politically important it is for Latvia to have an embassy in Russia. [passage omitted]

[Podins] But can Russia, if the question of the Russian Embassy in Latvia is not settled—and one cannot, as you say, rush to take a position—refuse us any rights to this property in Moscow?

[Jurkans] Yes, theoretically that is possible, because we do not even have a treaty with Russia about those buildings in Moscow. I assume a positive resolution will be reached today about concluding an agreement with Russia about the handing back of the Ministry of Culture building to the Russian Embassy. We will also conclude an agreement about our embassy in Moscow. In a word, we will legalize our property in Moscow and Russia's property here.

[Podins] But is it not possible to link these questions with property held by Latvia in Moscow in the 1930's?

[Jurkans] It can be linked to all of it. One could say that for Russia to install its embassy in these buildings now occupied by the army, you could do all sorts of things. But there should be legislation. As I said, our legislators are adopting such a resolution about the disposition of the embassies. We are working on it. No matter how the Supreme Council's final resolution reads, we will carry it out honorably and diligently.

Presidium Urges No Return of Russian Embassy

OW0409114092 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1043 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Thursday the Presidium of the Latvian parliament passed a decision not to return to Russia the building of its embassy in Latvia.

The author of this draft decision, the chairman of the parliamentary commission on culture, education, and science Peteris Lakis explains his positions by the fact that the occupation forces are still staying in Riga and

Russia unlawfully retains the Latvian property abroad, in particular, the buildings of the Latvian embassies in Switzerland and France.

The building of the embassy where the Latvian Ministry of Culture is located now was procured by Russia for its diplomatic mission in 1921.

According to the resolution of the presidium, "the transference has purely symbolic character and is directly connected with the occupation of the Baltic in 1940". The issue on possible granting other buildings for the embassy is supposed to be solved at the interstate negotiations between Latvia and Russia.

In his conversation with journalists the Latvian Foreign Minister Janis Jurkans qualified this decision as "an indifferent to politics" as it can lead to worsening of relations with Russia. According to Jurkans, the fate of the Latvian embassy in Moscow is unclear now.

The leader of the Latvian state commission at the negotiations with Russia, the state Minister Janis Dinevics, believes that the decision of the Latvian parliamentary Presidium may "set up new accents" in the Latvian-Russian relations and underlined that the soonest opening of a Russian Embassy to Latvia is in the interests of both states.

Unemployment Outpaces Development of Benefits

LD0309100592 Riga Radio Riga Network
in Latvian 0900 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] The director of the employment service informs that in Latvia, since 15 January 1992 when the law on employment took effect, 41,351 job seekers have been registered. Still actively seeking work are almost 29,000 people, of whom more than 16,000 are unemployed. Over 14,000 people are receiving benefits. There are 141 people classified as long-term unemployed.

In Riga 14,000 job seekers are registered. Unemployed status applies to 4,000 of them; 4,000 more are receiving benefits. The number of long-term unemployed in Riga is 45.

The situation will worsen if enterprises find they cannot pay wages. Nearly 50 percent of the workers at Alfa and Komutators [electronics enterprises] may be [word indistinct]. This is linked to the conversion of the military-industrial complex now under way throughout the CIS. The monopoly that Alfa once enjoyed has evaporated. This situation is spreading to light industrial enterprises, too.

The state employment service acknowledges that the development of services is falling behind the increase in unemployment. By the end of the year unemployment could reach 12 percent.

Lithuania

Defense Minister Believes Troop Withdrawal Set

OW0309122492 Moscow BALTFAX in English
0934 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian defence minister, Audrius Butkevicius, has told local television that a timetable of the withdrawal of Russian troops evidently acceptable for both sides has been worked out. He commented on the work of experts of the Russian and Lithuanian delegations preparing the bilateral summit on September 8. Still he said work on the schedule will continue this week.

According to unofficial sources, at the summit the Russian side might suggest completing the pullout next year. The Lithuanian side insists on the withdrawal this year referring to the outcome of the referendum on the issue in the country.

[Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN in English at 1623 GMT on 2 September adds: "Speaking on television, head of the Baltic States department of the Russian Foreign Ministry announced that Russia is ready to pull out its troops from the Baltic States next year which will be officially made public on September 8 by the Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his meeting with the Chairman of the Supreme Council of Lithuania Vytautas Landsbergis.

["It is noteworthy that in August Russian representatives maintained that Russia would not be able to complete pulling out its troops from the Baltic countries earlier than in 1994 and that the terms of the withdrawal would depend on the subsidies from the Baltic States for the housing of the pulled-out troops.

["There are about 130,000 Russian troops in the territory of the Baltic States.

["We have been informed that the current talks between the Lithuanian and Russian delegations in Moscow are carried on constructively."]

Landsbergis Says Russia Angling for Hostilities

WS0309130792 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 1623 GMT 2 Sep 92

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 70]

[Text] 2 September 1992—On August 25 this year at the United Nations Organization the ambassador of the three Baltic States met with the leaders of the Russian mission on account of the impending consideration of the Russian armed forces' pullout from the Baltic States at the General Assembly of the United Nations.

On receipt of the official report about the statement made at the meeting by Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Russia S. Ordzhonikidze, the

Lithuanian SC [Supreme Council] Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis was taken by surprise. In this connection he noted that Mr. S. Ordzhonikidze's warning that Russians may rise the issue of the alleged violations of the Russia minorities' rights in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia is rather misplaced because in that case it would be indispensable in the first order to discuss the situation of the national minorities in Russia and in those places where the Russian army is engaged in fighting. However, Mr. S. Ordzhonikidze's insinuation that on account of the Laws on citizenship and state language in the Baltic States the Russians "might resort to extreme means of self-defence like they are doing in Moldova" sounds like an open threat which does not seem to be unfounded. We possess information, Vytautas Landsbergis said, that the other country's secret services are scheming to provoke within the nearest future unrest and scuffles in the streets which, they hope, might turn into ethnic hatred and hostilities. Such means are intended to impede the signing of the treaty for the pullout of the Russian troops from Lithuania, to obstruct the democratic changes and to undermine the process of Helsinki. The situation would become especially dangerous if the Russian officers decided to dispatch their soldiers to back up some street hooligans.

One thing we do not know so far, Vytautas Landsbergis continued, is whether these schemes are hatched by the ex-USSR secret services bent on the restoration of the collapsed regime and empire or the intelligence service of the current democratic Russia. We would not to believe the latter is the case, Vytautas Landsbergis concluded. [sentence as received]

Landsbergis on Upcoming Yeltsin Troop Talks

WS0109065692 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 1712 GMT 31 Aug 92

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 68]

[Text] 31 August 1992—In his traditional Sunday TV address President of the Supreme Council Vytautas Landsbergis compared the people's views and attitudes in two antipodal small towns, Skuodas and Snieckus lying in the extreme west and the extreme east of Lithuania which he had visited on the occasion of the 420th anniversary of the first and the 15th anniversary of the second. Vytautas Landsbergis noted that moods and views had markedly drawn closer to each other in these two places. Although at the initial stage of the restoration of the independent republic of Lithuania a certain section of the Snieckus population were opposed to the course of the events, now they realize full well the changes taking place in Lithuania and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Speaking on the upcoming meeting with the President of Russia Boris Yeltsin, which is due to take place in Moscow on September 8, and during which a document on the Russian armed forces withdrawal from Lithuania is expected to be signed, Vytautas Landsbergis said that

the Lithuanian experts are making thorough preparations. Unfortunately, their counterparts in Moscow keep changing parts of the formerly arranged agreements and advancing new proposals which misrepresent the present situation. Thus, for instance, they try to impose upon us obligations. We can help them with the troops' withdrawal but we don't feel it to be our duty to make any specific commitments in this respect, the chairman of the Lithuanian parliament declared.

Economics Minister Discusses Achievements

LD0409130492 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Economics Minister Albertas Simenas held his traditional Thursday briefing with journalists at the government building. In his opinion, the most important work carried out by the government this week was the economic memorandum prepared with experts from the Bank of Lithuania and the International Monetary Fund. This document precisely details economic relations and social and financial policy, defines the [word indistinct] of state credit and budget, establishes the size of the state reserves, and provides for measures to stop inflation and the general decline of the economy. The memorandum also defines the further progress of privatization and other reform landmarks. It should satisfy the conditions raised by the IMF on granting financial assistance to Lithuania. Opportunities would therefore arise to obtain more credit from Western countries, the World Bank, and other international financial organizations. Credit in the sum of up to \$500 million may be expected from all these sources.

A positive decision by the IMF on granting assistance would be yet another prerequisite for attracting private foreign investment.

After the prime minister (?approves) amendments by the government to the law on the privatization of state property, this process should be simplified and stepped up. At the same time, Simenas reminded reporters that an increase in prices for communal services is unavoidable. It is dictated by the prices for energy raw materials becoming more expensive. Currently we must pay 2.2 times more for gas and oil imported from Russia. At present, intensive negotiations are taking place on prices for these and other raw materials and the mutual settlement of accounts.

Government Approves Economic Memorandum for IMF

OW0309122792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
0934 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday the Lithuanian government approved on the whole a memorandum on its economic policy. The one year program was compiled in keeping with IMF recommendations. Its implementation should win broad support from international financial organizations.

On Friday the memorandum will be submitted to IMF representatives and in mid-October it will be discussed by its leadership.

Lithuania hopes to get credits worth \$287 mn [million] this fiscal year in the event of the approval of the program.

Landsbergis, Lubys Receive Tatarstan Vice President

WS0409130892 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 1513 GMT 3 Sep 92

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 71]

[Text] 3 September 1992—Deputy Prime Minister Bronislovas Lubys received a delegation of Tatarstan lead by the Republic's Vice President Vasily Likhachov. Their conversation focused on wide possibilities for cooperation in the sphere of economy. Tatarstan is interested in the possibility of using the port of Klaipeda for its trade with Western Europe, Lithuania is most interested in the oil of Tatarstan.

Vice President and the delegation of Tatarstan were also received by President of the Lithuanian Parliament Vytautas Landsbergis who acquainted the guests with the political and economical situation of Lithuania, with the course of the talks with Russia and the problems of the Russian forces' pullout.

Vice President of Tatarstan said that one of the aims of the visit is to obtain exact information necessary for ascertaining reliable long-term perspectives of political economic and cultural cooperation. He pointed out that by this visit Tatarstan is discovering the Baltic States for itself. He also noted that the small Tartar diaspora has lived agreeably in Lithuania for ages.

Today the delegation of Tatarstan will be received by Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala.

Prime Minister Discusses Ties

LD0309221392 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] The Tatarstan delegation led by Vice President Vasily Likhachev, currently visiting Lithuania, was met today by Lithuanian Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala. Also attending the meeting was Deputy Prime Minister Bronislovas Lubys.

At the meeting views were exchanged on the possibilities for expanding mutually beneficial trade and economic ties and furthering cooperation in the areas of science and culture. Both sides said it was vital to create trade missions as soon as possible and establish conditions for favorable and long-term cooperation.

Government To Increase Fuel, Electricity Prices

WS0309130992 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 1623 GMT 2 Sep 92

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 70]

[Text] 2 September 1992—The Government has decided upon a considerable increase in fuel and electricity prices abstaining so far from the planned fivefold rise of prices for the thermal energy. The rise of prices has been brought about by Russia's demand of world prices, i.e. 127 USD [U.S. dollars] for a ton of oil and 90 USD for a thousand cubic metres of natural gas though Russia is paid only 90 - 110 USD for a ton of oil and 60 - 65 USD for a thousand cubic metres of natural gas by its trading partners. We stand a poor chance of importing fuel from other countries before building the oil terminal near Klaipeda. We are negotiating with the Latvian Government about supply of oil through the port of Ventspils from which there is a pipeline to the Lithuanian oil-refining plant in Mazeikiai. There is a governmental decree allowing enterprises and private persons to import oil and its products by contracts made on their own free initiative.

Supreme Council Discusses Adoption of Laws

LD0309224392 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] A meeting of the permanent discussion group examining the issues of production and business was held today at the Supreme Council. It was attended by Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis and Deputy Prime Minister Bronislovas Lubys.

Discussion took place on which economic laws are indispensable to the republic and which should be examined and passed at the last session of the Supreme Council of the present convocation. In the opinion of the meeting participants, currently the most needed laws are on bankruptcy, mortgage, and other laws on which the implementation of the economic reform depends. It was stated that it is essential to radically reorganize the tax system, improve the processes of privatisation, and to take more care of the Lithuanian business strategy.

Russian Legal Assistance Accord Not in Effect

OW0209190792 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1647 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian General Prosecutor's Office has not received a response to any of its inquiries from its Russian counterpart, Lithuanian General Prosecutor Arturas Paulauskas said in a national television interview. He reminded his audience that in July of this year an agreement on legal assistance was signed between Lithuania and Russia. The document gave Lithuania hope that Russia would release state criminals wanted by its law enforcement organs.

In particular, Mr. Paulauskas said, responses have not been received regarding Algis Klimaitis, a businessman of Lithuanian descent charged with espionage by the former Soviet KGB and MGB worker Petras Raslanas, charged with accessory to the murder of Lithuanian prisoners during the retreat of the Soviet Army in July, 1941 and with participation in the tragic events in Vilnius in January.

Government Permits Free Oil, Coal Imports

*LD0209181792 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 2 Sep 92*

[Report by Ceslovas Jursenas]

[Excerpt] First, I report on government decision No. 642 signed by Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala. The decision concerns the situation in the power engineering system of the Republic of Lithuania and the improvement of the supply of power engineering resources to the consumer.

Taking into consideration the difficult situation which has developed in the power engineering system, the government has decided to demonopolize from 1 September the order of supplying the consumer with power

engineering resources, while creating economic conditions which will prompt the legal and physical subjects to supply these resources.

In connection with this, the government has granted permission to the state and private structures to freely import and sell oil and oil products, coal, gas, and other power engineering resources into Lithuania applying no limitations to the amount being imported and exempting the above products from customs duty and the value-added tax. [passage omitted]

New Japanese Ambassador Presents Credentials

*WS0309131192 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN
in English 1623 GMT 2 Sep 92*

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 70]

[Text] 2 September 1992—The Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Japan Yosifumi Matsuda has handed in his credentials to Chairman of the Supreme Council of Lithuania Vytautas Landsbergis.

He was born in 1931 and graduated from the Law Department at Tokyo University. Since 1956 he has been engaged in the diplomatic service of the Foreign Ministry of Japan in Great Britain, the United States of America and Denmark. The Ambassador will reside in Copenhagen.